

## Fowler's £20m shock package in war on Aids

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

A new health education authority is to be established within the National Health Service to develop the fight against Aids, and the Government is doubling to £20 million the sum it will spend over the next year on its campaign.

The measures, agreed by Lord Whitelaw's Cabinet committee on Aids, were announced yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, during an all-day debate in which he issued a stark warning that the crisis could reach the levels of other countries unless everyone protected themselves.

In its publicity campaign the Government is to employ shock tactics, particularly aimed at the young. Advertisements prepared for the youth press contain such warnings as: "Your next sexual partner could be that very special person - the one that gives you Aids," and "Aids: how many people will get it for Christmas?"

Mr Fowler promised more money for clinics treating sexually transmitted diseases, more money for hospitals, particularly in London, to treat the disease and greater British involvement in international research efforts to

combat Aids and to find a cure or vaccine.

Mr Fowler is to visit the World Health Organization and the United States and will talk with his counterparts in European countries as part of

A total of 34,448 cases of Aids had been reported in 77 countries around the world by mid-November. 77 per cent of them in the United States, the World Health Organization said yesterday (Reuters reports from Geneva).

Of the other countries reporting cases, 32 per cent were in the Americas, 23 per cent in Europe, 10 per cent in Africa, 9 per cent in Asia and 2 per cent in southern Pacific.

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the international fight against the menace.

The £20 million education campaign includes:

● A new round of newspaper advertising starting on Sunday.

● A poster campaign at 1,500 sites around the country.

● A campaign directed at young people, using magazines, radio and cinema.

● A leaflet drop to all 23 million households in Britain early in the new year, accompanied by radio and television advertising.

The BBC and IBA have agreed to cooperate in public service broadcasting.

The most far-reaching development disclosed yesterday was the reforming of the Health Education Council - a government-funded body outside the NHS - as a health education authority directly accountable to Parliament.

The new authority, which will come into effect next April, will be given the major

executive responsibility for public education about Aids, and a far larger budget than the council, whose current responsibilities it will also take over.

His campaigning will cover the whole of the Britain. The statutory arrangements which exist in Scotland through the Scottish health education group will be unaffected, although the two authorities will of course collaborate.

Mr Fowler told MPs that 30,000 people in Britain were infected with the Aids virus. The proportion of those who would eventually contract the disease and die was at present put at 25 to 30 per cent, but could be higher.

The Aids disease was fatal and incurable, he said. And the number of cases would inevitably increase whatever the Government did. But the spread of Aids could be prevented and the problem contained. The Government had an important role but the key to containing the spread ultimately rested with individuals own behaviour.

He said that clear explicit language must be used. "It may be that some will be offended. I regret that, but I have to say that I believe the greater danger is that the message does not get over."

He emphasized that unless everyone took action the disease would spread more widely into the heterosexual population. The message could not therefore be confined to particular groups. "That means striking a balance between warning everyone of the risks, while not causing unnecessary panic."

Ministers were not last night putting a figure on the new sums that will be spent on top of the £20 million campaign, but Mr Fowler said that

Continued on page 24, col 7



Fighting talk: Mr Norman Fowler launches the anti-Aids campaign in London yesterday

## Brady set to talk on other crimes

By Ian Smith, Northern Correspondent

Ian Brady, the Moors murderer, yesterday broke his 22-year silence and said he is now willing to talk to senior police officers about other crimes. His change of heart has resulted from letters he exchanged with Myra Hindley about the murders after both were given life sentences.

In correspondence between the two before their relationship ended, Brady made several references to the Moors murders and according to the solicitor Mr Benedict Birnberg, Brady is concerned about the public interpretation which might now be placed on the letters.

Five days ago Hindley pledged to co-operate in a new police search of the Saddleworth Moor which began on Thursday to find the graves of Keith Bennett, aged 12 and Pauline Reade, aged 16.

Det Chief Supt Peter Topping, joint head of Greater Manchester CID, yesterday met senior Home Office staff to request that Hindley be taken from Cookham Wood jail in Rochester, Kent, to Saddleworth Moor.

Hindley has already identified from maps and photographs the spots where she thinks Keith and Pauline are buried, but detectives believe a personal visit to the scene will refresh her memory of events of 22 years ago.

Snow on Saddleworth Moor yesterday forced police to call off their painstaking search. The point where they are now digging is less than 100 yards away from where the body of 10-year-old Lesley Anne Downey was unearthed in October 1965.

## Shultz accused as bitter row grows over Iran deal

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan's senior advisers were embroiled in bitter recriminations yesterday over the secret shipment of US arms to Iran as it became clear that far more weapons reached Tehran than the White House has previously admitted.

Mr Robert McFarlane, the former National Security Adviser who went to Iran secretly at Mr Reagan's request, accused Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, of knowing more about the operation than he has admitted. He insisted that he had kept Mr Shultz informed "repeatedly and often" about his clandestine contacts with Iran.

Mr Shultz, who opposed the operation, has maintained that he was only "sporadically" informed about the arms supplies and that he had "fragmentary information at best" about what was going on.

Mr McFarlane said that in retrospect it was a mistake to send arms to Iran. "As a senior adviser to the President I should have anticipated this potential outcome. The failure to do so represents a serious error in judgment for which I accept full responsibility."

Admiral John Poindexter, the National Security Adviser who ran the operation, gave details of weapons sent to Iran to selected congressmen.

The cache included 2,008 Tow anti-tank missiles and at least 235 Hawk anti-aircraft missiles. The revelation casts doubt on Mr Reagan's claim that the arms had no impact on the military balance between Iran and Iraq, and sharply contradicts the statement by Mr Donald Regan, the White House Chief of Staff, that the weapons "wouldn't be one day's ammunition supply."

Mr Jim Wright, Democratic Leader of the House of Representatives, said after meeting Admiral Poindexter that apart from the weapons sent by the US, a series of shipments were sent by Israel, which had been "given to understand it was carrying out the wishes of the United States."

Mr Wright said 1,000 Tow missiles were assembled in San Antonio last February and others were shipped separately. "All were paid for by Iran - \$12 million plus," he said.

## Heroin smuggling gang is convicted

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Heroin worth up to £200 million was smuggled into the United States, from Pakistan, by members of a British ring convicted yesterday at the Central Criminal Court in one of the biggest drug cases ever heard by a British court.

After more than three days of deliberations, the jury found five men guilty of taking part in the ring including Paul Dye, aged 42, a company director from Iver, Bucks, who was the central figure in the organization.

The others convicted were Clive Williamson, aged 29, an electrician from Middlesex, who became his lieutenant; Peter Davies, aged 30, a bread salesman from north London; David Millard, aged 37, unemployed, from Peterborough; and Paul Murphy, aged 30, unemployed, from north London.

Nazim Ahmed, aged 27, a Pakistani, was acquitted of

bringing two kilograms of heroin into Heathrow airport. Graham Ellis, aged 30, a meter reader from west London, had already pleaded guilty to a smuggling charge. Yesterday the court was told he had been pressured not to plead guilty and kept separate from the others.

The men convicted yesterday were arrested a month before the Criminal Justice Act took effect, with its provisions for life sentences for traffickers. But after the jury returned His Honour Judge Rant, QC, said he was considering the possibility of consecutive sentences when he passes sentence on Monday.

Five people have been convicted in the United States, including Millard's wife who was found with three kilos of heroin.

Transit lounge gang and photographs, page 3

## Researchers find a third virus

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

New evidence has been found of a third virus which causes Aids, raising the possibility that tests used to safeguard blood supplies against the disease will have to be refined.

The virus was discovered in several west African patients suffering from Aids in Sweden by three researchers who won the Albert Lasker research award. The virus has not yet appeared in the United States.

Dr Robert Gallo, a senior researcher at the National Cancer Institute, Dr Luc Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute in Paris and Dr Myron Essex of the Harvard School of Public Health, suggested that more aids viruses might be found.

The new discovery has been labelled SBL (for state bacteriology laboratory) 6669 V 2. Most Aids cases come from one of the other two viruses so far identified, designated variously as HIV, HTLV 3 and LAV 1. A second virus, LAV 2, was found early this

year and has been discovered in at least six west African patients as well as in France, Belgium and West Germany.

To complicate the picture, a fourth virus has also been found, but it apparently has not caused disease among about 300 people in whom it has been identified.

Dr Gallo said all the Aids and Aids-like viruses were under examination to determine their differences and similarities.

On the evidence so far, some viruses seem to be highly infective while others are weak. Dr Gallo said some strains of the same type of Aids virus barely infected cells under laboratory conditions, while other strains "run to" the cells.

"What makes one cause disease, another not, I don't know," he said. "The answer will come in 1987." The three scientists said an important concern was that the new viruses could escape detection by the existing Aids blood test.

## British Gas shares offered at 135p

British Gas shares go on sale next week at 135p each, valuing the company at £5.6 billion, Mr Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, announced yesterday (Teresa Poole writes).

Payment will be in three instalments with 50p a share due on application, 45p in June next year and 40p in April 1988.

More than 7.5 million people have expressed interest in the privatization and all correct applications should receive an allocation.

The sale has been structured

so that up to 64 per cent of the shares, worth slightly less than £3.5 billion, will be available to the private investors.

Mr Michael Richardson, a managing director of NM Rothschild, said: "We have an intention of balloting and placing in mind the numbers likely to invest for relatively small amounts, we believe this also leaves room for large investors and for those wanting several thousand pounds worth of shares."

Shareholders are likely to make an immediate gain on any investment. NM Rothschild expects to see a 15p premium on the 50p par value shares, which would mean a quick 30 per cent profit for investors.

The issue price drew immediate criticism. Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said that after squandering the windfall of North Sea oil, Mrs Thatcher was "now having to sell off our industrial silver to pay the monthly bills."

The full prospectus will be published in *The Times* on Tuesday, November 25.

Gas goes public, page 25

## Demand for MI5 statement rejected

By Michael Evans and Martin Fletcher

The Prime Minister is determined that the Government's case against the former MI5 officer Mr Peter Wright should not be abandoned, despite the increasingly embarrassing situation faced by Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, in the New South Wales Supreme Court in Sydney.

Yesterday both Mrs Thatcher and Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, resisted Labour demands for a Commons statement on the Government's apparent double standards over Britain's intelligence services.

But Whitehall sources said

that the decision by Sir Michael to broaden the scope of the MI5 affidavit nothing to do with the Prime Minister.

Sir Michael had ordered a police inquiry into statements made by Mr Nigel West, author of a book on the security service, which was based on information supplied by many former members of MI5.

Number 10 officials said it was entirely a matter for Sir Michael. Mrs Thatcher had not been consulted, she was merely "informed", the officials said.

The inquiry which could potentially lead to police questioning of the former director-general of MI5, Sir

Martin Furnival Jones, and other senior ex-members such as Mr Arthur Martin and Mr Anthony Simkins, was set in motion yesterday.

Sources said that Sir Michael was forced to call in the police because of the suggestion that classified documents had been unlawfully handed over and were in a safe.

The twin-pronged MI5 affair linking the court case in Sydney to police action in London gave an unwelcome new dimension for the Government, already under fire for its decision to fight publication of the book by Mr Wright in Australia.

Further embarrassment for the Government emerged yesterday when Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, a Labour MP, revealed that a second book by a former MI5 employee, the late Mrs Joan Miller, is to be published next week.

## Paris meeting seals warmth of relations

Paris - No epoch-making agreements were reached at yesterday's summit meeting, but Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand expressed their pleasure at their similarity of view on a range of issues, including defence, the EEC and East-West relations (Diana Goides writes).

After "a beautiful and enjoyable day," Mrs Thatcher said they had seen much of each other this year.

As if to mark the warm relations, she said that the Prince and Princess of Wales would visit France in 1988.

Sectate of terror, page 6

## £55,000 damages in 'Eye' libel suit

Mr Robert Maxwell was yesterday awarded £55,000 libel damages against the satirical magazine *Private Eye* which had claimed on two occasions in 1983 that he financed trips abroad by the Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, in the hope of ultimate ennoblement.

The damages included £50,000 "exemplary" damages, and costs were estimated at £200,000.

After a theatrical and flamboyant courtroom battle, the jury of six men and six women took five hours to find unanimously for the Czech-born former Labour MP for Buckingham, publisher of the *Daily Mirror*.

They awarded him £3,500 in respect of the first article, £1,500 in respect of the second, and a further £50,000 in punitive damages. Mr Justice Simon Brown granted Mr Maxwell an injunction banning *Private Eye* from further publishing the same or similar defamatory words about him.

Mr Maxwell, aged 63, said after the verdict: "I am delighted that I have been able, with the jury's help, to nail *Private Eye* for the lying organ that it is."

"We have exposed once and for all that they will publish anything for profit. They don't check their sources. They don't have the guts to apologise and when they finally do, they say in a court of law that some of their apologies are insincere."

The magazine had alleged, in articles written by Mr Christopher Sylvester, its political correspondent, that Mr Maxwell had acted as Mr Kinnock's "paymaster" and financed trips by the Labour leader and his staff to East Africa, Central America and Moscow, so that he might eventually be recommended for a peerage.

Mr Maxwell claimed, in evidence and through counsel, that the allegation was malicious, offensive, disgraceful, monstrous and outrageous.

*Private Eye* and its former editor Mr Richard Ingrams, who was not in court for the verdict yesterday, claimed it was true.

Mr Maxwell said he had twice rejected a peerage. To be Lord Bob of Cold Type was not his remaining dream, he added.

Mr Ingrams and Mr Sylvester spent many hours in the witness box and claimed their story came from "moles" in the Labour Party and at *Mirror* Group Newspapers, whom they refused to name.

The largest awards previously made against the magazine are thought to have been to Sir James Goldsmith, the industrialist, who won £30,000 criminal libel damages in 1976, and a further £85,000 libel damages in 1983. Brian James, page 24

## Next week



● Spectacular advances in farm technology have ensured that there is now enough food to feed the world. But politicians have turned this success into a monster. In Europe it is called the Common Agricultural Policy

● Warehouses are bulging with unwanted milk, beef and grain, courtesy of the taxpayer

● As Europe's leaders struggle to find a way out, The Times looks behind the CAP in a week-long series

● Why Europe has its back to the wall - and how we can slay the monster

● How farmers were pushed to produce more milk - only to see it poured away

● The subsidies war: as Europe and the US battle it out, the Third World goes hungry and farmers around the world face bankruptcy

● The science and the profits: how increased efficiency on the land has made millions for grain store owners

**A share in gas**

Tuesday: Tell Sid - The Times is publishing the application form plus full prospectus to apply for shares in British Gas

## Portfolio Gold - £12,000 to be won

● The Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £4,000 was shared yesterday by five readers. Details, page 3.

● Portfolio lists, pages 24 and 29; rules and how to play, page 39.

● Today £12,000 can be won - £8,000 in the weekly competition and £4,000 in the daily.

## Queues grow

Government figures show that the number of people waiting for hospital in-patient care rose by 12,000 in the six months to March this year to 673,107

## TIMES BUSINESS

### Pound rallies

The pound shrugged off its weakness of the past few days, gaining against the dollar and the mark. The sterling index rose by 0.3 to 67.9. Page 25

### 1,200 jobs go

Britain's biggest cement company, Blue Circle Industries, is to cut its workforce by 1,200 next year - and there will be more to go in 1988. Page 25

### Boesky ruling

The Stock Exchange has told its members they can deal for Mr Ivan Boesky, the American speculator, provided they immediately report to it. Page 25

## TIMES MONEY

### A lot of PEP

The introduction of Personal Equity Plans (PEPs) in the last Budget has proved so successful that one company has had 18,000 inquiries

Family Money, pages 30 to 37

## TIMES SPORT

### Tailend boost

England's cricketers, who had a dismal day on a sodden pitch at Newcastle, were boosted by the tailenders, French, Foster and Small. Page 42

### Tyson's target

Mike Tyson, aged 20, will become the youngest world heavyweight champion since Floyd Patterson if he beats Trevor Berbick in Las Vegas tonight. Page 44

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## NEWS SUMMARY

## Terrorists stage show of strength

Fifteen terrorists staged a show of strength in isolated border country yesterday to display weaponry and warn Loyalist paramilitaries of retaliation for their attacks on Roman Catholics.

The Irish National Liberation Army gunmen drove three journalists, who were blindfolded, to a remote area near the border between Co Louth and Co Armagh.

They were armed with Heckler and Koch rifles, Armalite and Ruger weapons, and a UZI sub-machine gun.

One of the terrorists read a statement warning "loyalists" that if they intensified attacks on the Roman Catholic community, the Liberation Army would retaliate.

The incident occurred without any sign of security forces on either side of the border and Mr Ken Maginnis, official Unionist MP for Fermanagh, South Tyrone, said it gave "the lie" to claims that there was improved security co-operation.

## New evidence frees youth

A youth who spent three months in prison accused of murdering a teenage girl was released yesterday after new evidence showed he could not be the killer. Richard Buckland, aged 17, of Lime Tree Road, Narborough, Leicestershire, had been accused of killing Dawn Ashworth, aged 15, in the nearby village of Enderby last July.

But magistrates in Leicester were told that the person who killed Dawn had also killed Lynda Mann, also aged 15 of Narborough, three years earlier and that tests showed that Richard was not implicated in Lynda's murder. Both girls were pupils of Lutterworth Grammar School.

## Lawyer remand

A solicitor who was extradited from France to face a double murder charge was remanded in police custody yesterday in a private hearing before a Sheffield magistrate.

Ian Wood, aged 38, had been held in France after he threatened to jump from a cathedral tower. During extradition he faced charges of murdering Miss Danielle Leduc, his lover, and her daughter at the home they shared in Bradford, near Sheffield, and a further charge of attempting to murder her son.

## Branson boat sold

Mr Richard Branson, the pop millionaire, has sold the Virgin Atlantic Challenger II for £1 million, to a wealthy Saudi Arabian prince.

The giant powerboat beat tough Atlantic weather to win the blue ribbon for Britain, by crossing from New York to the Scilly Isles in just three days, ten hours and forty minutes.

Mr Branson, who built the boat for £1.5 million, will not reveal the identity of the prince. Virgin Challenger II will be sent to the Mediterranean.

## Miners stop work

A strike halted work yesterday at the £57 million colliery Castlebridge, near Dundermine, which was opened only last month. More than 800 miners stopped work in protest over disciplinary action against men alleged to have come up from the pit before the end of their shift.

A spokesman for British Coal said: "Production at the pit has been halted. Discussions on what is a petty disciplinary matter cannot take place until normal working has been resumed under agreed conciliatory procedure."

## Militant defiant

The Labour Party's battle with the Militant leaders of Liverpool Council took yet another twist last night as the expelled Mr Derek Hatton (right) insisted that he was still the deputy leader of the council, and had his claim supported by the new left-wing leader.

In an unprecedented move the Labour leadership made plain that it was ready to impose a deputy leader on the council.

It ordered that all councillors purged from the party must be removed from office at the next full council meeting.



## Health education chief's future queried

By Jill Sherman

The future of the Director General of the Health Education Council, Dr David Player, was the subject of speculation yesterday following news that the council was to be disbanded.

Tussles with ministers during his four years of office suggest that it is unlikely that he will become head of the new NHS health education authority.

The council's 75 staff members were told that most of them would be found jobs, but the 10 chief officers, including Dr Player, have been told by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Services.

Mr Norman Fowler, the new body will need to re-appoint senior staff and there is no guarantee that they will be re-employed.

The council's 25 members, under the chairmanship of Sir Brian Bailey, who is also chairman of TV South West, have been told that their terms of office, due to be reviewed this month, will be extended until next April when the council is disbanded. No decision has been made as to whether they will then become members of the new body.

In public, Dr Player put on a brave face yesterday, although evidently concerned about his own position.

"I see the new health

authority as becoming the preventative wing of the NHS. It is a development I have been urging for a number of years and the Health Education Council hope to play an active and urgent role in setting up the new authority," he said.

Dr Player, aged 57, has been both a colourful and a controversial figure at the council since he took over in 1982, having been director of the Scottish Health Education Group.

On numerous occasions he has met ministers head on over policy differences, as did his predecessors, particularly concerning alcohol and smoking.

In the year he took office he took on ministers over the appointment of Mr Michael Daube, a former director of Ash, the anti-smoking campaign, and a senior lecturer in community medicine at Edinburgh University.

Dr Player wanted Mr Daube to run his public affairs division in London. But the Department of Health and Social Security, anticipating a clash with the smoking lobby, vetoed the position.

More recently, Dr Player was warned by the Government to stay clear of the anti-alcohol abuse campaigners, Triple A. Conflicts have also arisen over Government cam-

paigns on drug abuse and Aids.

The HEC has also had its own share of criticism and many organisations, including NHS staff feel that it has been largely ineffectual and not had the necessary teeth to make any decisive impact on health education.

HEC staff at the council's London headquarters, though shocked at the suddenness of the news, which they heard at midday yesterday, were trying to convince themselves that the new move would give health education a higher profile and a role in creating national policy.

## 'Threat to society' message on Aids

By Thomson Practice Science Correspondent

The Government's £20 million Aids campaign begins tomorrow with explicit newspaper advertisements designed to promote fundamental changes in sexual behaviour in Britain.

The message is that Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) is a sexually transmitted disease which threatens all sections of society.

The advertisements are more direct and emphatic than earlier phases of government publicity on the disease, but do not use any sexual slang.

The campaign cautions against promiscuity and emphasizes that heterosexual men and women, as well as homosexual men, are at risk.

"Aids is not prejudiced. It can kill anyone," one advertisement warns. "Don't die of ignorance" and "The longer you believe Aids only infects others, the faster it'll spread" are variations on the theme.

The advertisements point out that 30,000 people are infected with the Aids virus. There have been 565 cases of the disease in Britain so far, with 284 deaths.

Colour posters with warning messages will appear in streets at 1,500 locations on December 8. On that day, a campaign will begin in magazines for teenagers and popular music papers. It will run until February 1987.

One of the teenage press advertisements says: "Aids: How many people will get it for Christmas? Another, contained in the shape of a heart, says: "Your next sexual partner could be that very special person". It is subtitled: "The one that gives you Aids".

On December 15 commercials will be broadcast on radio, with Ian Dury, the rock musician, and Paul Gambaccini, the disc jockey, advising: "The more people you sleep with, the more danger you're in."

And on drugs, Ian Dury says: "If you can't give up injecting, never share a needle or equipment."

Twenty-three million leaflets will be delivered to households throughout the country. They will be supported by advertisements on TV.

Television commercials are still in production, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday, but they are certain to contain the same messages as other groups of the campaign. The first advertisement is likely to be broadcast on December 28.

Similar advertisements will be shown on 1,500 cinema screens from January 5.

Mr Fowler said: "The advertising will aim to get over straight messages: 'Stick to one partner, if you don't, use a condom'."

The campaign hoped to strike a balance between warning everyone of the risks, while not causing unnecessary panic, he said.

## Baker blow as teachers set seal on pay package

By Mark Dowd, Education Reporter

Teachers last night rebuffed Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, by formally approving the deal on pay and conditions agreed last weekend in spite of the Government's call for a rethink on the content of the package.

Final ratification will not take place, however, until the agreement has been put before union members at the beginning of next month.

The move puts unions and Mr Baker on a collision course.

He wants to reform the career structure of teachers to give greater pay differentials for senior staff and teachers of merit, whereas the unions and their local authority employers have finally set the seal on their own salary structure which is weighted in favour of the basic classroom teacher.

A last-ditch attempt was made by some of the smaller unions to accommodate the Government's position yesterday but this failed.

Both rival pay formulas are worth average rises of 16.4 per cent spread over 15 months, but Mr Baker has repeatedly threatened to impose his own solution if a settlement is not reached on his terms.

Four of the six unions signed the final accord: the National Union of Teachers, the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, the Secondary Heads Association and the Professional Association of Teachers.

The two which dissented from last weekend's draft agreement, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers and the National Association of Head Teachers, remained firmly opposed.

Mr Baker will now meet local authority representatives early next week. He will seek clarification

about why they chose to ignore his request for a rethink and will also want specific figures on the extra cost implications of improved conditions of service relating to maximum class sizes and covering for absent colleagues.

Mr John Pearson, leader of the Labour-controlled local authorities, said that the Government's request to reconsider stemmed from a mistaken view of the management needs of schools.

"We therefore wish to meet the Secretary of State to explain why we believe our structure to be in the best interests of the education service and to try to convince him to fund central government's share of this historic agreement which is so beneficial to all," he said.

Mr Doug McAvoy, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said he hoped the Government would see that this was the best way of securing peace in schools.

But Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the NAS/UTW, said: "I fear schools will rapidly find themselves in desperate circumstances as ill-advised head teachers and ill-advised local authorities try to get their pound of flesh out of this awful bond."

## Royal guest at concert

The Prince of Wales is to attend a concert in London next month, to mark 600 years of Anglo-Portuguese friendship, it was announced yesterday.

The concert, at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, on December 16, will feature the English Chamber Orchestra, of which the Prince is patron.



Here served PC Keith Blacklock: The simple message on the plaque in Muswell Hill, London. His widow, Elizabeth, stands in tribute at the memorial unveiled yesterday by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader (Photograph: John Rogers).

## PC was 'victim of cruelty'

By Tim Jones

As Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Labour Party, unveiled yesterday a memorial to the memory of PC Keith Blacklock who was hacked to death during the north London riots last year, the senior community relations officer at Haringey, accused the organizers of ignoring the black community.

However, Mr Michael Winner, chairman of the Police Memorial Trust, said the usual practice of inviting the mayor, deputy mayor and chief executive of the council had been followed and they had attended.

Before he performed the simple ceremony at Muswell Hill, north London, Mr Kinnock had laid a wreath at the memorial in Haringey to Mrs Cynthia Jarrett, whose

death after police raided her home, led to the rioting.

Outside the town hall at Haringey, Mr Kinnock met the leader of the council, Mr Bernie Grant, whom he had publicly disowned because of remarks made after the riot.

Mr Grant blamed the police for the riots and said they "had received a bloody good

hiding".

Yesterday, Mr Jeff

Crawford, a community relations officer, said: "I note with regret that there was not one black face among those officially invited to the Blacklock memorial ceremony."

"To be blunt, I treat this as a

huge snub to Haringey's black community. I wonder whether the organizers and those police associated with the ceremony really mean it when

they talk of healing wounds and building bridges for the black community."

Mr Winner said that Mrs Blacklock and her three children, Mark, Kevin and Lee, had not wanted Mr Grant to be invited.

Mr Kinnock said that PC Blacklock had been the victim of cruelty beyond the scope of comprehension.

## TV tribute

A wreath from Mr Noel Edmonds, the BBC television personality, and his wife, Helen, lay next to the coffin at the funeral of Mr Michael Lush, yesterday. Mr Edmonds did not attend. Mr Lush, aged 25, of Southampton, died while rehearsing a stunt for *The Late Late Breakfast Show*.

## Kinnock hedges on N-weapon plan

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock said yesterday that the timetable for the removal of American nuclear weapons from Britain under a Labour government would be worked out in agreement with the United States.

The Leader of the Labour Party declined to put a precise timetable on such a withdrawal process before his important visit to the US next weekend.

In an interview with *The Wall Street Journal* published yesterday, Mr Kinnock said that a Labour government's first job would be to shut down the building programme for Trident submarines, and then to respect the rest of Britain's nuclear arsenal.

On timing Mr Kinnock said that an agreement "will have to be worked out with the United States" and he added

that there were "technical questions".

Mr Kinnock said: "I'm not saying how long that technical process is and what kind of discussions we need to have in order to achieve it. But it will be undertaken because the United States is not and never has been in the business of imposing weapons systems."

Defence will dominate Mr Kinnock's week-long US visit. He is to make speeches in Atlanta, Boston and Washington, and will be constantly asked how Britain would be defended under a Labour government, and what its relationship would be to the United States.

In the newspaper interview he reaffirmed that a Labour government would never call on the United States to launch a first strike against an enemy of Britain.

## New CND leaflet is scorned

A new CND leaflet purporting to show the routes used by convoys carrying nuclear weapons drew scorn last night from defence sources in Whitehall.

Routes "detailed" in the pamphlet comprise mainly primary arterial roads in Britain. One Ministry of Defence official said the leaflet was "somewhat less useful to would-be saboteurs of nuclear convoys than the average AA map".

But while the contents of the new pamphlet are being regarded as "harmless, bordering on the insane", the philosophy behind the leaflets has worried politicians.

Mr Gerry Neale, chairman of the Campaign for Defence and Multilateral Disarmament, said it was "reprehensible" that CND should attempt to detail convoy routes and arms depots.

## Wapping pay-off claims near 2,000

By Tim Jones

Nearly half the number of full-time employees of News International who went on strike have applied for termination payments.

A total of 5,140 staff who went on strike were dismissed for breach of contract.

However, more than 1,100 of them were part-time workers, not wholly employed by the company, and some of them worked only one night a week for News International.

By last night, 1,600 applications from former employees claiming their share of the £58 million offer had been processed by the company and several hundred other claims were being dealt with.

The company expects that by next week, when the offer closes, it will have processed about 2,000 termination payments.

Under the offer, former employees who had full-time positions with the company

would receive £820 for each completed year of service, with a minimum payment of £2,000.

A spokesman for the company said: "When we reach the 2,000 figure, it will indicate that a majority of our former full-time employees have 'voted' in their own way to end the dispute, by taking the redundancy payments on offer."

"By any democratic judgment that will mean it is finished."

He added: "The part-time people, some of whom worked only one day a week for us, have been told that if they accept redundancy money, they will be expelled from the unions."

"In those circumstances, they could not continue to work for the remainder of the week at other Fleet Street newspapers."

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## Pay offer aims at prison peace

The Home Office sought to buy prison peace yesterday with a £15,000-a-year salary for top-grade prison officers choosing to work a regular 49-hour week (Our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).

The aim is to do away with costly, unpredictable overtime, which does not always put staff where most needed.

The offer will be negotiated by the Prison Officers' Association and the Treasury will be involved.

At present, officers work on average 56 hours a week, including overtime, with average earnings of £15,000.

Last night, the Prison Officers' Association did not

bring in £4,000 a year more.

The starting salary for a new prison officer will be £8,800 for a 39-hour week, compared with £8,600 for a 40-hour week now.

There will be no chief officers, the equivalent of warrant officers, under the plan, but they will be merged with junior governors.

The pay of the present governor class is being reviewed by agreement between the Treasury and the governors' branch of the Society of Civil and Public Servants.

Last night, the Prison Officers' Association did not

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and others from the more important weaving centres of the East. Included are many antiques, silks, kelim, nomads and other unusual items not generally to be found on the home market. This merchandise is the property of a number of principal direct importers in the UK which has been cleared from

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## £200m heroin gang smashed in one operation

# Heathrow transit lounge smugglers used girdles

By Stewart Tisdall, Crime Reporter

In drug-smuggling the best ideas are sometimes the simplest. For more than two years Paul Dye and other members of a multi-million pound drugs ring convicted yesterday at the Central Criminal Court put that principle to best effect, smuggling between 40 and 60kg of heroin across the Atlantic.

One of the largest heroin organizations ever uncovered by British customs investigators took advantage of the transit passenger system to move heroin from Pakistan through Britain and the Continent into the United States, generating up to an estimated £200 million.

For the first time in the history of customs operations investigators captured an entire international drug organization ranging across three continents from the heroin supplier to the couriers, distributors and Dye, the entrepreneur behind the whole operation.

He and the others were caught by undercover surveillance involving investigators from Britain, the Netherlands, West Germany and the United States. Although arrests were made during the investigation the organization refused to heed the warnings, signs and continued to operate.

Unaware that customs men were listening, Dye once complained to a colleague how difficult smuggling had become.

Eventually Dye plotted to finish his operations with a spectacular swansong by using a Pakistani diplomat and a diplomatic bag to move 50kg of heroin to the United States during a United Nations conference.

But he was not quick enough. He and other members of the ring were arrested around the world.

In an unprecedented legal move four of the gang convicted in the United States were flown to London to give evidence in the trial.

They described an organization which, competing with the Mafia, relied on nothing more fancy than 25 Marks & Spencer girdles to smuggle 2kg or 3kg of heroin a trip from Pakistan.

The girdles were bought at London stores and sent out to Pakistan. Dye and his aides were careful not to cause any

problems with the Pakistani authorities and cut out the labels because of the Arab ban on companies linked to Israel.

The girdle would leave Islamabad around the waist of a courier booked to a destination which required a change of flights.

In the transit lounge at an airport such as Heathrow the courier would go into a toilet, remove the girdle and place it in a briefcase. He would sit next to a second courier in the lounge carrying an identical bag.

An exchange would take place and the second courier would wear the girdle for the second leg of the journey into the United States. The first courier would either continue to an innocent destination or return home after cancelling an apparent onward flight.

## Stricter police checks to beat couriers

Customs across the world are aware of the ways transit lounges at leading airports can be used by smugglers, such as the heroin ring convicted at the Central Criminal Court yesterday, to transfer contraband. But the officers deny they are a loophole.

Nonetheless in the aftermath of the heroin investigation customs have looked afresh at ways of policing the lounges and increasing the number of uniformed officers who might monitor passengers.

Mr Ronald Harris, the assistant chief investigation officer in charge of the team which caught the heroin ring, said: "We would argue the lounges are not a loophole. Drugs have got to pass through two customs controls at the source and receiving countries."

Transit passengers are not normally subject to customs examination. The system defeats the well-tried customs operation of screening passengers arriving from countries such as Pakistan known to produce illegal drugs.

The drug was 80 to 90 per cent pure and 1kg bought in Islamabad for up to £5,000 would be worth £2.5 million once it reached the United States.

But early last year customs officers mounted an investigation code-named Operation Fulmar and which would amass more than 700 photographs of the ring in action.

The investigating unit, known as the Foxrot because of its call sign, was alerted when uniformed customs officers became suspicious about a number of people going to Pakistan.

In the first overt move of the operation customs were watching a suspected British member of the gang who led them to Dye.

Customs men discovered that within the space of two years Dye, described as a company director, had moved from a small flat in Ruislip to a Buckinghamshire house worth more than £150,000, paid for with drugs profits.

Transit lounges are not controlled by customs procedures and therefore not a loophole in the customs process. The lounges have not only been used for contraband such as drugs but also, it is suspected, by terrorists in the Middle East and some European countries trying to get arms on to aircraft for hijacks.

The weapons could be carried from a country with little airport security to a transit lounge in another country where the weapons could be transferred to terrorists. Drug-smugglers, aware that flights from heroin-producing countries and the cocaine-growing areas of South America are subject to close customs scrutiny in the United States and Britain, use the lounges to transfer loads to couriers unlikely to be stopped.

Dye drove a Jaguar XJS and a Triumph, flew by Concorde and stayed in the best hotels abroad. He described himself as a secondhand car dealer and pop star promoter. He also claimed during the trial to have been involved in funding a rock concert in Spain and said he had plans to market the "black box" equipment for helping drug addicts using several well-known rock and roll stars.

Cadogan was on the run but was traced through his yacht. Customs knew from papers found during his Heathrow arrest he planned to register the boat under the British flag through a company in Jersey. From his hiding place in Florida he rang the company to check the arrangements unaware that a customs investigator was in the office. He was arrested.

Drug Enforcement Agency agents and British Customs went to search his home in Phoenix and one of the Americans answered the telephone. The call came from a man called Anthony Havelock-Hudson who was a courier for money from drug sales.

Unaware of the disasters overtaking the organization Havelock-Hudson fell into a trap. He was told two people from London were staying in Phoenix and the man who took his call would go with him to meet them.

Havelock-Hudson assumed the men he met, the British customs officers, were part of the organization and he described his work. Over a drink in the hotel Havelock-Hudson developed hiccups.

He went to the bathroom telling his companions "when I come back you chaps give me a fright". When he reappeared he was shown the men's identity cards.

He and John Herdridge are now awaiting sentence in the United States for drug offences.

Cadogan was given 20 years and Sylvia Millard, Herdridge's companion, got three years for smuggling. Chesters was also convicted.

Customs provided evidence against the heroin supplier, a man called Mohammed Latif, who was arrested in Islamabad. The courier arrested in the Netherlands was given seven years. In the United States agents have arrested a street dealer in New York and San Francisco. More arrests are expected.

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Customs believe that Dye, originally a small-time fraudster, started in drug dealing in 1980. Originally he built up his business running heroin from the Golden Triangle area of south-east Asia in an estimated 40 small runs from Malaysia.

By the time customs started work Dye had moved his business to the heroin source on the other side of Asia in Pakistan.

As customs kept watch last year they found other members of Dye's organization. The arrest at Heathrow did not halt operations which were re-routed through the Netherlands and West Germany.

Two more members of the gang, one of them John Herdridge, Dye's senior lieutenant, flew from Amsterdam to New York where they were intercepted. Heroin was found but the customs operation remained secret.

Customs saw Dye himself fly out to Pakistan and then to the United States, leading his trackers to a man called Wolfgang Cadogan, the main American wholesale distributor, based in Arizona.

Dye and the American flew into London where Cadogan was stopped by customs carrying a briefcase with \$134,000 and a small amount of cannabis. He paid a small fine for the drug and was allowed to leave.

Dye continued his operations. He stood in the background at Heathrow as an aide made arrangements with KLM for a Pakistani courier to pick up a ticket in Amsterdam and fly to Mexico City.

When the Asian arrived in July last year at Schiphol airport in Amsterdam a British customs officer was watching. The courier was carrying 2kg of heroin and in British arrests began.

Dye was found to have a mini-computer which held details of his couriers and transactions. He had assumed the record had been destroyed when he pressed an erase button but he had simply moved the recording tape on.

In New York, Herdridge, the trusted senior lieutenant now charged by the Drug Enforcement Agency, named links in the heroin chain. Over a drink in the hotel Havelock-Hudson developed hiccups.

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Bidding in progress for the Constable painting which was auctioned at Christie's in London yesterday for £2,400,000 (Photograph: Julian Herbert).

## Fatal drug 'suitable sedative'

A medical expert told the jury in the trial of a GP accused of attempting to murder his patient that he would not criticise a doctor for using 150 mg of the drug phenobarbitone for sedation.

Mr Hubert Wood, Professor of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics at Sheffield University, was giving evidence on the ninth day of the trial of Dr John Carr, aged 59, of Branch Road, Leeds.

Dr Carr denies attempting to murder Mr Ronald Mawson, a terminal cancer patient, by deliberately injecting him with a massive overdose of phenobarbitone to let him die. The doctor claims he made a tragic mistake and injected Mr Mawson with 1,000mg of the drug instead of 150mg.

Professor Wood said he was aware that in some circumstances during the terminal care of a patient, phenobarbitone would be suitable. The trial continues.

## New riot gear for Manchester force

The Greater Manchester police force was given the go-ahead yesterday to spend more than £150,000 to arm its men more effectively in the event of street riots.

The area police authority rubber-stamped a request from Mr James Anderton, the Chief Constable, to finance the conversion of vehicles and extra protective gear.

Only one representative on the authority argued against the proposal. Mr Sam Darby of Moss Side, Greater Manchester, which was the focal point of riots in 1981, said: "It seems to me that being equipped like this could only lead to more provocative behaviour by police officers".

The authority agreed to the spending of £64,817 on additional protective clothing and equipment, and a £86,112 to convert nine vans into fully-protected personnel carriers.

Extra equipment requested by Mr Anderton included shields, shin-guards, protec-

tive vests, and helmets. They are for the Tactical Aid Group.

In his report to the authority, Mr Anderton said: "You are asked to recognize that an outbreak of public disorder can be precipitated without warning, and it is of the utmost importance that acquisition of the required equipment should be treated with a degree of urgency".

A report from the Greater Manchester Police Federation said: "We believe we are the worst-equipped force in the country and that should an incident of public disorder arise, our members will not be properly protected".

It said that if the equipment was not provided as a matter of urgency, there was a likelihood that officers would have to withdraw from civil disturbances, leaving the public in danger "and the possibility that parts of Greater Manchester would, at least for a time, become 'no go areas'".

## Portfolio Gold Winner to buy new Beaujolais

A maritime arbitrator and a photographer are among the five winners of yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000. Mr Bruce Harris, aged 42, the maritime arbitrator, from west London, has played the Portfolio Gold game since it started.

"I am very surprised because I am not designed to win at games of chance," he said. Mr Harris said that he would spend some of his winnings on Neveau Beaujolais wine.

Mr Geoffrey Taylor, aged 45, the photographer, from St Alban's in Hertfordshire, said he was "very elated".

When asked how he intended spending the prize money, Mr Taylor said: "I'll have a nice Christmas".

Mr George Netley, aged 44, an accountant from east London, said he felt "disbeliever" when he realized that he was a winner.

He will use his share of the prize money to buy new table tennis equipment.

The other winners are Mr Michael Ford, aged 56, a retired radio producer from Bromsgrove, Hereford and Worcester, and Mr Terry Slater, aged 44, a company director from west London.

Readers who wish to play the game can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.

Mr Bruce Harris, who will turn winnings to wine



Mr Bruce Harris, who will turn winnings to wine

## Bus attacks to be filmed

A city's 110 double decker buses were fitted with closed-circuit television cameras yesterday, to film vandalism and attacks on drivers.

Film of incidents will be used by Derby as evidence in any future prosecutions.



Paul Dye, ringleader of the international drug network trapped in Operation Fulmar. Cast of characters in the heroin plot Mohammed Latif and John Herdridge (top left and right); and Clive Williamson and Derrick Gregory (above left and right).

## Accomplice facing death penalty

Paul Dye, the head of the heroin ring convicted yesterday, is luckier than one of the lowly couriers he employed in his early days in the drug trade.

Derrick Gregory, now aged 36, is awaiting trial in a Malaysian jail on a heroin smuggling charge which could cost him his life under the stringent local law.

British customs believe that Mr Gregory, from Richmond,

Surrey, was used by Dye's early organization when he was using suppliers in south-east Asia for drugs to send to the United States. He was caught with more than 300 grams of heroin hidden in his underclothes and shoes.

Fifteen grams of heroin is enough to warrant the Malaysian death penalty, by hanging, and Mr Gregory was caught with more than three times the total amount found on Barlow and Chambers,

who were hanged earlier this year.

Mr Gregory has said he was recruited in west London in August after getting into debt to criminals. He was unemployed with a wife and family and he was sent to pick up a package on the island of Penang.

Given some cash and an air ticket, he flew to the island thinking he might be involved in diamond smuggling. He was instructed by a Briton

there to act like a tourist until approached.

Eventually he was given the drugs by a Chinese contact and sent off to Penang airport to pick up a ticket to San Francisco. Instead of a ticket he found the local police waiting.

Since he was arrested his lawyers have argued that he has a case for clemency because of psychiatric disorder. A brain scan in Penang has shown he suffered from a brain injury as a boy.

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# MINOLTA



November 21 1986

## PARLIAMENT

# £20m campaign to educate public about Aids scourge

## HEALTH

Details of the long-term and short-term publicity measures to fight Aids were announced by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, in a Commons debate on the fatal disease.

He said that there is to be a new health education authority, within the National Health Service, to educate the public about the dangers of Aids, and about ways of preventing it. The new authority will be reconstituted from the present Health Education Council, but will have a bigger budget, a greater role, and a clear line of accountability to ministers and to Parliament.

He also disclosed details of the immediate £20 million campaign to publicise the precautions needed to avoid contracting Aids.

Mr Fowler outlined an expanded and intensified Government campaign to educate the public through newspaper, television, radio and poster advertising, with £20 million of funding being made available during the next twelve months.

Other elements of the campaign would include the launching of a youth campaign using magazines, radio and cinema, a leaflet drop early in the New Year to all 23 million households, backed by television and radio advertising, and a Health Education Council leaflet to be circulated to all 11,000 pharmacies where they would be free to members of the public.

Talks with the chairmen of the BBC and IBA had brought agreement to participate in the campaign with advertising followed up by a series of public service announcements on independent television and radio.

The advertising will aim to get over straight messages: "Suck to one partner; if you do not, use a condom, do not inject drugs; if you cannot stop, do not share equipment."

The campaign must seek to change people's behaviour, with everyone taking responsibility for their own actions. The advertising would have to go into detail and use language easy to understand.

"It may be that some will be offended, I regret that, but I have to say that I believe the greater danger is that the message does not get over."

There was a difficult balance to be struck. At present the infection was virtually confined to the few, relatively small, high risk groups. In this country there

had been 565 cases of which 284 had died, however it was estimated that there were 30,000 carriers, of whom 25 to 30 per cent and possibly more, would contract the disease and die.

So unless all took action, it would spread more widely into the heterosexual population. That meant striking a balance between warning everyone of the risks, while not causing unnecessary panic.

In the long term there was need for a new body to carry forward the education campaign. The importance of its task and the resources the Government needed to devote to it made it right to strengthen and enhance the role of the Health Education Council.

"To that end, I propose to reconstitute it so as to become a Special Health Authority with a clear line of accountability to ministers and to Parliament," he said.

Initially the new body would assume the current responsibilities of the Council and from an early date it would be given the major executive responsibility for public education about Aids and it would be resourced accordingly. It would therefore have responsibility for a much larger budget.

It would be an integral part of the NHS in England and as a result would be more responsive than an outside body to the needs of the service. It would have more influence in setting with some of my main European counterparts.

The Government would do all in its power to emphasise to the public the seriousness of the position and the action necessary to combat it. Over the next few years, however, the action needed was action which could be taken only by individuals.

Mr Michael Meacher, Chief Opposition spokesman on health, said resources were a vital element in the campaign and it was important that the House be told precisely how much new, extra money would be provided, and for exactly what purposes.

The debate would play a part in alerting the nation to the potential national crisis of the epidemic, to secure broad agreement on the role of Government in initiating and carrying out preventive measures.

There was nothing inevitable about the general population succumbing to Aids. Whether it now spread throughout the general population depended on people's readiness to modify their behaviour where necessary and the willingness and ability

of Government to mobilize the support measures to help bring about that modification of behaviour.

Preventive action by the DHSS needed to be matched in every region and district within the health service. The first step should be the appointment of a team to draw up a regional programme of prevention for each region, including regional telephone information services where appropriate.

Each district should also appoint an Aids prevention officer whose duties would include liaison with other voluntary groups.

Extra assistance was also needed for GPs. They, probably more than any other single person, were the most likely to be approached first by people anxious about themselves or their relatives.

The district health authority should take the lead in organising an education programme for all GPs in their areas.

More than three-quarters of the Aids cases so far had been in Greater London. The burden on certain London hospitals and services had been correspondingly severe. London had

been doubly hit: first by the disease but also because it had fared so badly in financial terms.

Adding together all these requirements it was reasonable to assume that a minimum adequate budget for the whole range of preventive measures against the spread of Aids would be at the present time within the range of £50 million to £100 million. This compared with an actual budget allocated by the DHSS last year of £1,900,000, topped up in December last year by a further £6,300,000, which, as a proportion of the total current NHS budget accounted for a paltry 0.04 per cent - ridiculous as a prevention against what many throughout the West regarded as the biggest single threat to public health this century.

The drabs and drabs approach so far had meant that all the relevant services had had to live from hand to mouth since Aids was first recognized in this country.

No one was suggesting that this or any other problem was solved by throwing money at it, but equally it could not be denied that this problem, which

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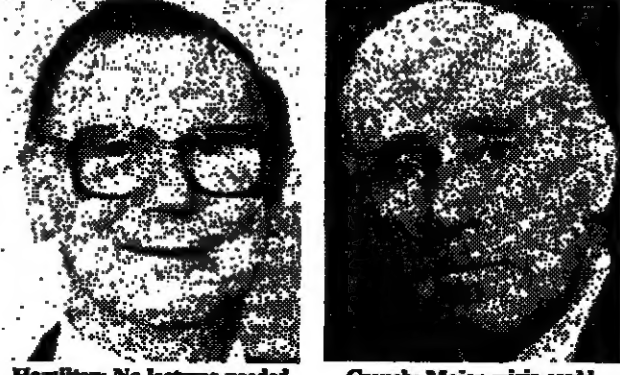
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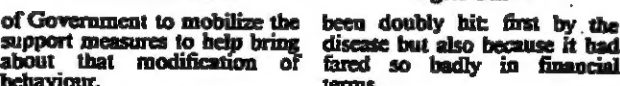
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Meacher: War against Aids must not become war against victims.



Hamilton: No lectures needed from Conservatives.



Crouch: Major crisis could engulf nation.

this year was on the brink of exploding like a lethal time-bomb could not be resolved without a major increase in expenditure, not only for medical research into a vaccine or cure, but for much more widespread provision of health education, screening and advice and counselling services.

Researchers in Scotland had found that while the British figures were still far short of the American ones, the explosive spread of the HIV virus was at least as much more widespread in New York. In New York, the number of Aids victims doubled every month.

A recommendation that clean disposable needles should be handed out to drug addicts was right. Anything that could significantly reduce or slow down the transmission of a lethal virus must be supported.

It would be wrong to assume that most people were incapable of making changes in their lifestyles when they were convinced of the necessity of doing so. This was already taking place among gay men.

It would only come about if increased screening facilities were made available, but mass screening would only provide an illusory protection for the general public and involve a huge waste of public money. It would be impossible to enforce and would dramatically interfere with civil liberties.

There were widespread misgivings among homosexuals about seeking treatment because breaches of confidentiality had occurred with distressing consequences. Every effort must be made to stop that.

The Government should take early action to protect the employment status of virus carriers who were fit and capable of working. The war against Aids must not become the war against those who had Aids.

Neither political expediency nor moral objections must be allowed to stand in the way of any step deemed likely to be effective in saving lives and preventing any additional individuals from contracting Aids.

It was the test by which the nation would judge the this Government and this parliament. "We must not fail."

Sir David Price (Eastleigh, C) said one of the biggest problems in trying to get an agreed national policy was the uncertain nature of knowledge about the disease.

There was a desperate need for increased funding for clinics as the number of patients was likely to increase.

Mr Leo Abbe (Torfaen, Lab) said the delay in Government action was prompted by a major miscalculation founded upon the belief that all that was needed was a holding operation. It was spending a piffling sum because it believed the Americans would be sending a cure or magic potion across the Atlantic.

A significant source of sickness lay in the soul or the psyche of promiscuous heterosexual

Don Juans and a disturbed minority of homosexual men, seeking sex from hundreds of partners each year. These tragic men were literally sex-mad and like all mad people, they needed help. They did not need sentimentalising.

They must be prepared to use plain words and to explode the taboos of prissy people in the Conservative Party and at Tundridge Wells, knowing that blameless men and women, among others, would otherwise be put at risk.

This was a national emergency. There was a need for the Government to turn to all with the skills to help ward off the epidemic.

To relegate psychotherapy and counselling to be a mere appendage of the amateur created in the attempt to shield the population from the epidemic was to be doomed to failure from the start.

Mr David Crouch (Canterbury, C) said that more time, effort, energy, expertise and money

should be devoted to a search for a vaccine.

The nation was facing a crisis of frightening proportions. It was no exaggeration to say it represented a major disaster that could engulf the nation.

There had to be collaboration between the private sector and Government. This was not the time for secrecy between country and companies or between companies and government.

"We are at war with a new virus, we must get ourselves in this country on a war footing in tackling this problem."

Mr Archie Kirkwood (Roxburgh and Berwickshire, L) said Scotland was at risk from the drug community in Edinburgh where the situation was out of control with some 2,000 drug misusers carrying the Aids virus.

Pushers travelled to the west coast to buy heroin which they sampled before returning to Edinburgh. One of the results was that there were now 154 virus carriers in Glasgow.

With a drug community of between 8,000 and 12,000, Glasgow was on the edge of precipice. One solution would be to use the city as a pilot project for free hypodermic needles for drug abusers and the provision of methadone as a substitute for heroin.

The experiment could be limited to two years and if it was found the scheme became a magnet for drug abusers throughout Europe it would have to be abandoned.

Sir Ian Fergusson (Southport, C) said a material factor in the spreading of this disease and the misery it caused was that so many had strayed so far and so often from what were taught as the normal moral values certainly up until the 1960s.

Some had set out deliberately

to destabilize society by corrupting the young with sex and drugs.

The first necessity was to recognize the causes. Those who tried to exclude the moral values from the argument were not only failing to look facts in the face but would never get the answers which they sought.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said it was certain that whenever the Conservative Party began to talk about moral values a general election was imminent. People needed no lectures from Conservatives in particular about matters of that nature.

The Government could find the money when the will was there and it saw the danger as a paramount threat to national survival.

Mr Frank Dobson, an Opposition spokesman on health, said plans to contract the services of public health laboratories outside London were absurd in the present circumstances.

Additional facilities must be provided at hospitals and STD clinics because the Aids campaign was bound to bring more people to them seeking advice.

Words used in private, that everyone understood, must be used. It would be a good start to stop using "condom" and use "rubber johnny" and "Durex". One slogan could be "if you must have it off, put one on."

(Laughter)

Mr Anthony Newton, Minister for Health, said part of the campaign would be specifically directed at young people through the magazines they read and other media, which were particularly powerful where they were concerned. Young people must be addressed directly in terms tailored to their attitudes and needs and the ways in which it might be possible to communicate effectively with them.

It was important to seek to avoid a position in which carriers were somehow treated as lepers or isolated members of the community, lest their jobs, and ceased to be able to make a contribution to society during a period when to all intents and purposes they were no threat to anyone in normal activities.

The Government's clear message was that the virus could not be acquired from normal social contact with someone who was infected. It could not be got from shaking hands or kissing. There was no danger in sharing cups and cutlery, nor could it be caught from public baths or toilets.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Employment, would launch a booklet for employers on Monday which would make a helpful contribution to the overall Government campaign.

The practical problems of drawing any distinction such as exempting elderly people from the planned leaflet delivery would be insuperable.

The Government would not allow anything to happen which would jeopardize the provision of sensible testing arrangements for Aids cases.

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# Personal records check and bill of rights win places in MPs' ballot

By Francis Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Moves to strengthen citizens' rights made two significant advances yesterday.

First, an MP who has drawn sixth place in the ballot for private members' Bills is to present one giving individuals a statutory right to inspect and correct personal files held on them by doctors, employers and local authorities.

Second, an attempt to give United Kingdom citizens their own bill of rights is to be renewed by Sir Edward Gardner, MP for Fylde, who has drawn fifth place.

About 150 MPs from all parties are backing a private member's Bill to give individuals a right to inspect and correct all personal files.

The measure, Access To Personal Files Bill, is to be introduced by Mr Archy Kirkwood, Liberal health spokesman. He has the backing of the Campaign for Freedom of Information which has been promoting the measure as the next step for giving people access to personal information held on them.

Yesterday Mr Des Wilson, campaign chairman, said: "This has been our number one aim for nearly three years and we have finally come up trumps."

The Bill complements the Data Protection Act, which in November next year will give individuals the right to see files on them held on computers, he said.

"It will end the absurd inconsistency which denies people access to personal files not on a computer."

Under the Bill individuals would be able to discover what records are kept about them, obtain the records and correct them if necessary.

Like the Data Protection Act they could obtain compensation through the courts for damage caused by inaccuracies, and would have a right of appeal if records were not corrected.

It would also include benefits and pensions records, records of arrests and convictions, certain immigration data and records of creditworthiness.

Mr Wilson predicted the Bill had a high chance of success in view of the widespread support for it which has been confirmed in two opinion polls.

A number of employers already give access to personal records, including IBM, British Gas, the National Coal Board, Swan Hunter Shipbuilders and some local authorities.

The BBC has agreed on principle to let staff see their records and the Army allows its staff to see personnel and performance files.

Sir Edward's attempt on the bill of rights coincides with what may be yet another ruling by the European Court of Human Rights against the Government on Monday in a case brought by a Guernsey couple over their right to live in their own home.

But it is expected to be resisted by the Government, which is opposed to any bill of rights, although there is wide support among peers and among organizations outside Parliament.

Sir Edward is to take up the

Bill promoted last year by Lord Scarman and Lord Broxbourne, which went successfully through the House of Lords but failed to win time for debate in the Commons.

The measure, the Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms Bill, would incorporate into United Kingdom law the rights and freedom protected by the European Convention on Human Rights.

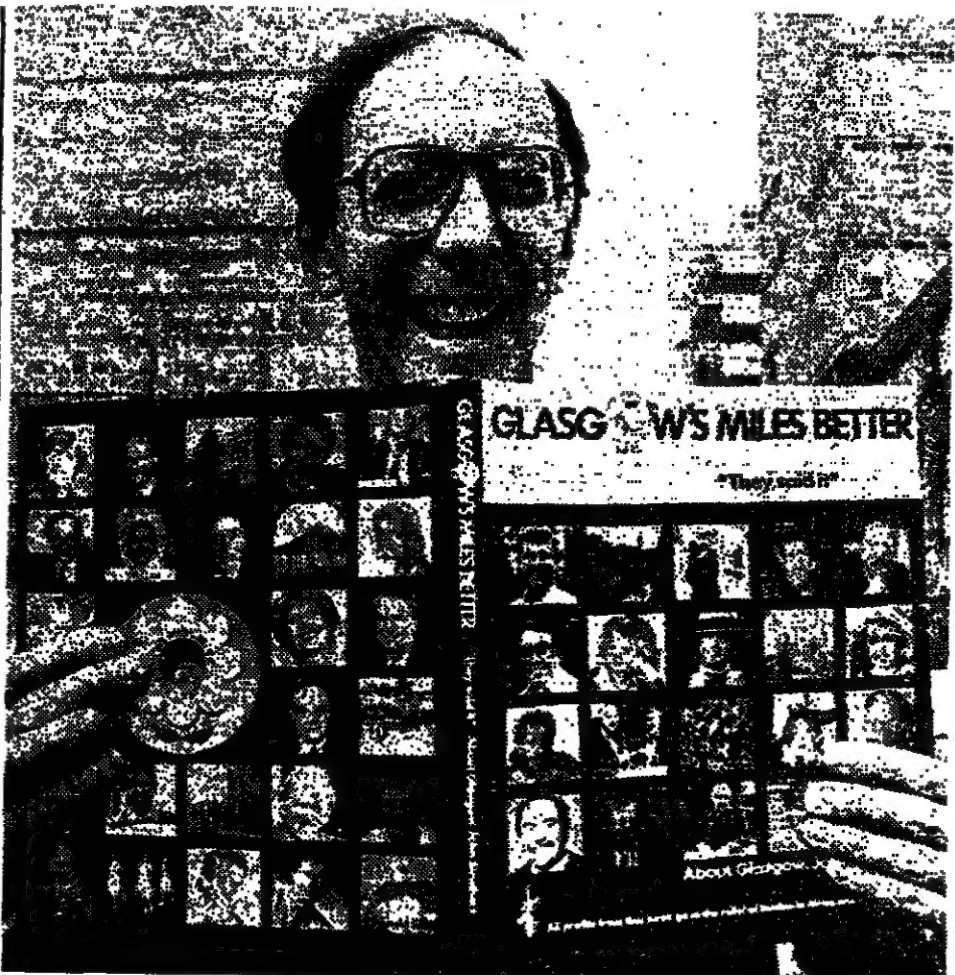
It would mean that anyone in Britain who thought their rights had been infringed could seek remedies in a British court rather than going the lengthy and expensive route through the European Commission and European Court in Strasbourg.

Yesterday a spokesman for the Rights Campaign, the pressure group which is promoting the measure, said: "We are delighted that Sir Edward has gained fifth place and will be giving him all possible support."

The chances of success for the Bill were increasing all the time, the spokesman said, as more and more cases were brought to Strasbourg and proving to be "deeply embarrassing" to the Government.

"If the European Convention was part of our law we would not have to wash our dirty linen in public. These cases could be sorted out speedily in our courts by our judges."

There is growing support among MPs for the Bill. Last time more than 100 signed an early day motion calling on the Government to allow the Bill time for debate.



Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, at the launch in Glasgow yesterday of a book of quotations from politicians, sportsmen and entertainers extolling the virtues of the city. Proceeds of sales will go to African famine relief (Photograph: Tom Kidd)

## Barrister's racism case fails

By Craig Selton

Mr Rudy Narayan, a barrister, has failed in an attempt to sue the Lord Chancellor for racial discrimination.

Mr Narayan, born in Guyana, had claimed at an industrial tribunal that black barristers at Birmingham Crown Court were being paid less than their white counterparts for the same legal work.

He maintained that he had received less money than a white woman barrister who was his junior, and that he had been discriminated against on grounds of race or colour.

Mr Narayan, who has chambers in London, had asked the tribunal, held in Birmingham, to rule on the case on the grounds that barristers who did legal aid work received their fees through the Lord Chancellor's department, and were, therefore, employed by that office.

In its decision, published yesterday, the tribunal told Mr Narayan that it did not have jurisdiction to hear his complaint.

It said he could not be regarded in a legal aid case as being employed by the Lord Chancellor in court or at chambers in a contract of service.

The tribunal report said it had limited itself to the question of jurisdiction.

It added that discriminatory practices were illegal, and that they were a matter for the Commission for Racial Equality.

Mr Christopher Leonard, the Treasury solicitor, applied for costs against Mr Narayan on the grounds that the barrister had brought his claim "unreasonably". The tribunal rejected his application.

## Sentences of four in riots are cut

Three youths convicted for their part in last year's Broadwater Farm riots in Tottenham, north London, during which a policeman died, had their sentences cut by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

But the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, warned: "Those who are proved to be organizers, if detected, which they seldom are, can expect heavy sentences."

He said that organizers of any affray could expect to receive sentences in the range of seven years, and upwards, on top of any other sentences which may be imposed for specific offences such as wounding, theft or burglary.

The more they are shown to have done in promoting the affray, the greater must be their punishment.

Together with Mr Justice Taylor and Mr Justice Rose, the Lord Chief Justice took the view that the five-year sentences passed at the Central Criminal Court last June on Paul Keys, aged 22, from Edmonton, north London, and Lester Sween, aged 18, from Edmonton Green, were, in the circumstances, too long and should be reduced to three-and-a-half years.

The seven-year youth custody sentence passed last month on Mark Macminn, aged 19, was also too long. Four-and-a-half years was the appropriate sentence for his part in the affray, which he had denied, and could be the subject of an appeal against conviction at a later date.

Although Macminn was close to the scene, and was one of the crowd shouting "kill, kill, kill," neither he nor Keys took part in the attack on the PC, the judge said.

Law Report, page 38

## Critic won over by Sellafield

The director of Greenpeace, the environmental group, has praised Sellafield after paying his first visit yesterday to the nuclear reprocessing works in West Cumbria.

Mr George Pritchard admitted that what he had seen, at the invitation of the unions, had "changed my views".

Mr Pritchard, whose group has been among Sellafield's fiercest critics, said there were parts of the old plant that he would still like to see changed, and Greenpeace would be producing a report highlighting their observations, to be passed on to management and unions.

"If changes were made then 'maybe there is a future for this industry,'" he said.

A spokesman for British Nuclear Fuels, the state-owned company which runs the plant, said he was delighted that the visit had changed Mr Pritchard's perception of the plant.

A Whitehaven inquest jury decided yesterday that Joseph Russell, aged 74, died from an industrial disease caused by asbestos 10 years after retiring from Sellafield, where he had worked for 16 years.

Two former colleagues told the court that at times Mr Russell's jobs including sweeping up asbestos dust when lagging was renewed on pipes.

A post-mortem examination disclosed that Mr Russell, of Buttermere Avenue, Whitehaven, died from a lung tumour.

## Lofty task

The actor Tom Watt, who plays the part of asthmatic sufferer Lofty in the BBC1 soap opera, *EastEnders*, will switch on Christmas lights at Brixton, south-west London, today and donate his fee to the Asthma Research Council.

## Settlement of £750 in race case

A man who was refused a driving job because of his Asian origin has been paid £750 compensation by a taxi firm, the Commission for Racial Equality said yesterday.

The commission said that when Mr Chahir Khan told Mrs Audrey Edmondson, the proprietor of a private hire car firm in Newcastle upon Tyne, of his origin he claimed she said: "I'm really sorry, but I cannot afford to employ coloured people because it affects my business."

Mr Khan, of Sydney Grove, Newcastle, who speaks with a "Geordie" accent, was hurt and annoyed. It was understood two white drivers were subsequently taken on.

A settlement was finalized through Acas, the conciliation service, when the firm, New Jet, admitted acting unlawfully and promised not to discriminate in future.

Mrs Edmondson agreed to pay £550, representing damages for the injury to Mr Khan's feelings, and £200 compensation for loss of earnings.

## School TV series on gays scrapped

By a Staff Reporter

Mrs Mary Whitehouse yesterday welcomed a decision by the BBC to cancel a school programme portraying a homosexual relationship as "a victory for common sense."

Mrs Whitehouse, president of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, said she had written a letter of protest about the programme to Mr Alasdair Milne, director general of the BBC, after receiving a copy of the script from an anonymous source within the BBC.

Mr Milne had replied that the programmes would treat the subject responsibly, but declined to cancel the series.

Yesterday, a BBC spokeswoman said the decision to scrap the programme had been taken by the controller of educational broadcasting, Mrs Sheila James, because of a change in the social climate.

The programmes could no longer be used by teachers in the intended manner, as a starting point for discussion of homosexuality, the spokeswoman said.

The drama, called *Mates*, was described by its producer, Mr Roger Tonge, as a romance. It showed the development of a relationship between two boys, aged 17, who are seen kissing.

The BBC refused yesterday to say how much had been spent on the series, which had been scheduled for broadcast in February.

Mrs Whitehouse has complained in a letter to Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, about a case in which magistrates decided that thousands of books seized in Britain's biggest raid were not obscene.

The hearing was held behind closed doors on November 12 by three magistrates sitting at Newham West Court in east London. They were shown 500,000 magazines and thousands more videos and books collected on St Valentine's Day last year in "Operation Sweetheart".

Mrs Whitehouse said she was concerned about the practice, confirmed by a clerk at Newham West Court, whereby if magistrates decide that less than half of a collection of books was obscene the whole lot must be deemed acceptable.

## MP given apology by Yard

The police have dropped a prosecution against the Labour MP for Hammersmith North, Mr Clive Soley, and apologized for not informing him more than a year ago.

The MP was taken before West London Magistrates Court in July 1985 for selling copies of the miners' paper in a shopping mall, during the pit strike. The action was brought under a 1916 Act which bans the collection of money and offer for sale of articles in the street. The case was adjourned indefinitely.

Recently Mr Soley demanded that the prosecution go ahead or he be cleared. Scotland Yard said that the case was adjourned because of an appeal in a similar case which was pending, and ultimately successful.

## Crash death widow wins £200,000

A widow was awarded damages totalling £200,000 by the High Court yesterday for the death of her husband in a car crash.

Mrs Margaret Steer's husband, Mr Timothy Steer, aged 35, died in hospital three days after his van collided with a lorry on the A41 near Oxford, in February 1985. His three children receive £6,000 each.

Mr Justice Causfield ordered Mr Thomas Wilkins, the lorry driver, and his employers, Connell and Griffin Transport, both of Bicester, to pay damages.

## Police name ferry victims

Police have released the names of two women who drowned when their Suzuki jeep plunged into the sea from an Isle of Wight ferry boat named on Thursday. They are Mrs Eileen Rose Bond, aged 42, of Church View Road, and Deborah Emmerton, aged 22, of Hospital Bridge Road, both of Twickenham, south-west London.

## Lead risk for police

Health checks on police firearms instructors at Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, show a rise in the lead content in their blood caused by breathing in lead particles after repeated gunfire.

## Intruder finds corpse in bed

An intruder who broke into a house in Lisleholme Crescent, West Derby, Liverpool, fled empty-handed after finding the body of an elderly man dead in bed.

A Merseyside police spokesman said that a post-mortem examination disclosed the man had died of natural causes.

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## WORLD SUMMARY

## Aquino military demands changes

Manila — General Fidel Ramos, the Philippine Armed Forces Chief of Staff, said yesterday that he has called on President Aquino to replace immediately "incompetent" members of his Cabinet (Keith Dalton writes). The call has been endorsed by a restive military high command.

Shortly after a meeting between Mrs Aquino and General Ramos, the President's spokesman, Mr Teodoro Benigno, said that one or two ministers could be replaced and that the functions of her powerful Executive Secretary, Mr Joker Arroyo, could be reduced.

The faction of Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, the Defence Minister, is believed to be seeking the dismissal of two ministers. It is reported that General Ramos, to avert a military *putsch* coinciding with Mrs Aquino's stay in Tokyo, agreed to present her with the faction's demands on her return.

## Bata to quit S Africa

Ottawa — Bata, the multinational Canadian-based shoe manufacturer, has decided to pull out of South Africa (John Best writes). An announcement from the company's Toronto headquarters said an agreement-in-principle had been reached with an unnamed buyer for the purchase of Bata's five factories and 20 retail stores in the country.

A spokesman said that the system of apartheid was one of a number of factors which entered into the decision to get out. The purchasing company was neither Canadian nor South African, but the spokesman did not identify it. **JOHANNESBURG:** Seven convicted murderers went to the gallows in Pretoria Central Prison shortly after dawn yesterday, bringing the number executed by hanging in South Africa so far this year to 106, all of them men (Michael Horsley writes).

## Kremlin still cool

Bonn (Reuters) — West Germany appealed to Moscow for a return to normal relations yesterday as the Kremlin gave a new show of displeasure with Bonn by blocking a planned visit by a senior aide to Chancellor Kohl. It was the fourth visit by West German officials to be cancelled by the Soviet Union.

The Kremlin has not explained the freeze on contacts, but Soviet officials have made clear it is in response to Herr Kohl's comparison, in a magazine interview, between Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader and the Nazi propaganda chief, Joseph Goebbels.

## Greek plant deal

Athens — The Soviet Union has agreed to buy the full output of an alumina plant to be built near Delphi, clearing the way for a project assailed by environmentalists for its potentially harmful effects on the ancient sanctuary (A Correspondent writes).

The agreement, reached in Moscow, ends months of negotiations on the 3300 million plant, to be built with Soviet technical assistance by 1990. The project was threatened when Bulgaria reneged on a promise to buy 220,000 tons a year of alumina. Under the agreement, the Russians took over the Bulgarian share and will buy all of the plant's output for 10 years in exchange for Greece's buying oil, natural gas, energy equipment and construction machinery.

## Cyclists in protest

Delhi — Forty cyclists led by a Briton, Mr David Bergman, left here yesterday for Bhopal, 469 miles away, to protest against slow rehabilitation of people affected by the Union Carbide gas leak nearly two years ago (Khalid Nayar writes).

Mr Bergman has been ordered by a court not to leave the capital until the settlement of a suit against him by the Madhya Pradesh Government that he is a spy of the Union Carbide Corporation.

## Loan for Santiago

Washington — The Executive Board of the World Bank has approved a \$250 million (£177 million) loan to Chile despite strong objections by the United States and other countries to the Santiago Government's alleged human rights violations (Mohsin Ali writes).

The US abstained when the loan proposal came up for a vote on Thursday. Policy makers feared that blocking the loan could damage Chile's economy and intensify political unrest. The British delegation voted in favour. The vote did not condemn Chile's human rights record, a source said.

## Abortion reform

Madrid — The Spanish Government approved the text of a decree yesterday which will extend authorization to carry out abortions to private, as well as State-run, medical institutions, and will do away with the requirement for prior approval by a medical committee (Harry Debellus writes).

The decree will also allow doctors to carry out abortions without the consent of patients in emergency cases in which the patient's life is in danger.

## Terrorism haunts Thatcher meeting in France

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The spectre of terrorism haunted yesterday's Anglo-French summit meeting in Paris. As Mrs Thatcher flew from London, President Mitterrand was attending the funeral of M Georges Besse, the late head of Renault, who was shot dead by militants near his home on Monday.

President Mitterrand, with M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, and nearly all government ministers, accompanied M Besse's widow and five children at the simple funeral service at Les Invalides, during which he named the insignia of the Commander of the Legion of Honour, awarded posthumously to M Besse, to the Tricolour covering his coffin.

In a funeral oration to the man he considered his best friend, M André Giraud, the Defence Minister, said: "We are all unhappy, repelled by the conditions of your death, Georges Besse. France is proud of you. France is outraged. But your work (for Renault's economic recovery) has been set in motion and it will be continued."

Meanwhile the search for M Besse's killers continues, with posters throughout France offering a reward of up to a million francs (more than £100,000) for information leading to their arrest, and carrying the photographs of the two chief suspects, both female members of Action Directe, the extreme-left group which has claimed responsibility for his murder.

Mrs Thatcher is understood to have told the French leaders of her concern.

After an hour's talks with President Mitterrand at the Elysée Palace, she dashed over the Seine for a brief tête-à-tête with M Chirac at the Matignon, the Prime Minister's Office on the Left Bank, before returning to the Elysée for lunch.

That was followed by a plenary session, attended by M Mitterrand and M Chirac as well as the government ministers involved, which covered defence, foreign affairs, agriculture and trade and industry.

The British ministers then went home, but Mrs Thatcher was required for another, longer meeting with M Chirac before dinner in her honour at the Matignon.



Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand talking in the gardens of the Elysée Palace yesterday at the start of their meeting.

## Panic as PLO fighters push out of Sidon refugee camp

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

A resurgent PLO fought off Lebanese Muslim militia attacks around the Ein Helwe Palestinian camp in Sidon yesterday, seizing a truckload of weapons from the Shia Amal militia, over-running three positions held by Sunni gunmen and shelling the Christian village of Magdouché on a hill to the south of the city, which is under Amal protection.

It was a day of near-panic among the Lebanese militias who control Sidon as the Palestinians of Ein Helwe, who have grown ever stronger during the past six months with substantial supplies of new weapons and equipment, advanced several hundred yards outside the camp to capture emplacements set up there by the local Sunni Popular Liberation Army (PLA) of Mr Mustapha Saad.

Amal complained that one of its ammunition trucks had been attacked by rocket fire and its crew captured by Palestinians as shells fell around the centre of the city. The combined forces of Amal and Saad's men, it seems, can no longer control the growing power of the PLO in Sidon.

Israel's helicopter raid on the city on Thursday was further proof that the Israelis and the local Lebanese militias share a common fear of the Palestinians, a concern which did not prevent the PLA joining forces with the Palestinians to shoot at Israeli helicopters as they flew low over Sidon during the raid.

One shell — fired by a PLO anti-aircraft gun mounted on a lorry — almost blew up one of the helicopters over the harbour.

## 'First lady' of Japan upsets status quo

From David Watts, Tokyo

Miss Takako Doi, of the Socialist Party, is the first woman leader of a major political party in Japan.

"Women's aspirations, potential and capabilities have been oppressed. And we women are disgusted and angry, probably beyond any man's imagination," she said yesterday.

Miss Doi has a reputation as an oppositionist who will not allow the Prime Minister's party to get away with clichéd images of Japan and its people.

After Britain and America, Japan is the third country in modern history whose gross national product exceeds 3 per cent of the world's total, she observed.

She implied that Japan has done nothing about investing abroad, though it will probably account for 4 per cent of the world's GNP this year. "It's only natural that trade friction grows," she said.

Continual promotion of exports causes a steep rise in the value of the yen, which had brought down investment in plant and machinery and pushed unemployment up to 6 per cent, which had become comparable with the West.



Miss Takako Doi: new angle on politics in Japan

## Two million private-sector jobs in Russia next year

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The number of Soviet citizens legally employed in the embryonic private sector is expected to rise from the current official estimate of 100,000 to between two and three million as a result of the new law on individual enterprise which takes effect on May Day next year.

The great majority of the new private workers are expected to be housewives and pensioners, who will have to purchase licences from the local authorities and be subject to a system of taxation assessed on the "usefulness" of their work to the state.

These official figures and predictions were released at an unprecedented press conference here last night during which some of the most senior economic managers in the Kremlin fielded a host of questions about private enterprise, Soviet-style, for nearly two hours.

Emphasizing the controversial nature of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's latest economic reform, veteran correspondents pointed out later that such a conference would have been unthinkable even two years ago.

At one stage, a Kremlin official spoke of the need to "take risks" by those who would be purchasing the new licences.

Mr Boris Gostev, the jovial-looking Soviet Finance Minister, admitted with disarming frankness: "We have never had any great experience of individual work." He added that journalists would have to wait until next year to see how the new law would work in practice, as a great deal of paperwork had to be done.

In the face of a barrage of questions, the officials, including Mr Nikolai Talyzin, a non-voting member of the Politburo, strove to play down the ideological significance of the new law, emphasizing that even after the increase, individual output would amount to less than 1 per cent of Soviet gross national product.

Mr Ivan Gladky, the chief architect of the new law and head of the state committee for labour and social affairs, emphasized that there was "a fundamental difference" between it and Lenin's famous New Economic Policy of 1921 — the other main experiment

with private enterprise — namely that the 1986 version completely outlawed the hiring of labour.

Mr Gladky, clearly enjoying his new found fame, flatly denied suggestions that the new legalization and encouragement of individual enterprise would drain talent from state industry.

All members of the regular workforce could only work privately in their spare time, he explained, and those who moved to lesser state jobs in order to concentrate on private enterprise would lose proportionate state benefits.

Dismissing any suggestion that the law would cause sweeping changes in the structure of Soviet society, the officials left the impression that to the outside eye the biggest difference was likely to be the appearance of a handful of family-run cafes.

But, as one American journalist remarked afterwards, that would be a welcome enough change in Moscow from the collective indifference of the state-controlled concerns.

## Hungary shelves leadership change

Budapest (Reuters) — Hungary, the East Bloc's most market-orientated country, is to draft a reform programme to revive its flagging economy but any changes in the Communist Party hierarchy will have to come later, the party's propaganda chief, Mr Janos Berecz, said yesterday.

Speaking after a Central Committee meeting that brought speculation of imminent changes at the top of the party, he said that businesses would be given a freer hand over their work forces and wage policy.

"Personnel questions were not on the agenda," he told a news conference. "First we need a programme and, if the programme needs personnel changes, then that can be done later."

Mr Berecz said details of the reforms would be presented to the winter session of Parliament next month.

"We will also have to think of the reform of political institutions," he said, without making clear when such reforms might take place. "The party will in future not be able to work as it has so far. We must secure the political and institutional framework for a good economy."

Mr Berecz said that new price, wage and tax structures would be worked out as part of attempts to harmonize production and consumption and to reward productive labour.

Rumours abounded that the Budapest party chief, Mr Karoly Grosz, might be promoted to assistant party general secretary and hence heir-apparent to Mr Janos Kadar, the 74-year-old leader. There was even speculation that Mr Kadar himself was about to go.

The news conference was postponed for 24 hours and the central committee meeting went into an unscheduled second day.

Sources close to the meeting said that there was fierce debate over whether economic measures should be accompanied by political reform.

## Foreign ministers view farm crisis

## EEC to sell wheat cheaply

From Richard Owen, Brussels

As the EEC farming crisis worsens and budget over-spending on agriculture gets out of control, the European Commission yesterday confirmed that the EEC is to sell 375,000 tonnes of wheat cheaply to Algeria and Egypt. The subsidy is described as unusually generous.

The farm crisis will be on the agenda of budget ministers when they meet under British chairmanship on Wednesday and Thursday.

But interest focuses on whether the EEC's foreign ministers tackle the question of agricultural spending and surplus when they meet in Brussels on Monday under Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary and president of the Council of Ministers.

Their meeting will set the agenda for the European summit in London on December 5, at which Mrs Thatcher will preside. Diplomats say the foreign ministers can scarcely

avoid discussing the budget and the farm crisis, seen as "the most serious problem facing the Community".

But some senior diplomats say that there is no purpose in putting on the summit agenda a detailed discussion of farm spending, since the history of EEC summit meetings suggests that this has not been a successful tactic.

It is more likely, they say, that the foreign ministers, and subsequently heads of government, would send a firm signal to farm ministers for their next meeting on December 8 to ensure that they finally face the decisions necessary to reduce the growing food mountains, even if such decisions involve damaging farmers' interests.

There is nonetheless pressure from some EEC officials — notably in the Commission — for the common agricultural policy and its failings to be put

squarably before the EEC leaders in London.

The sale of wheat to Algeria and Egypt will cause further tension between the Community and the US, which claims that EEC subsidies for agricultural exports distort world trade.

The EEC subsidy for Algeria and Egypt is intended partly to cover the storage costs in those countries before the grain can be sold to consumers. EEC traders involved are probably French, the officials say, and the amounts involved are reportedly 100,000 tonnes to Egypt and 275,000 tonnes to Algeria.

Officials say that this will make only a small dent in the EEC cereals mountain, which is estimated at 16 million tonnes. The foreign ministers will also tackle strained trade relations between Europe and America, as well as Canadian threats to impose high tariffs on EEC pasta.

## Credibility is Reagan's new problem

What now? President Reagan, halting and nervous, has given his explanation of why he sent arms to Iran. Congress and the public remain unconvinced. The American public is overwhelmingly opposed. The embattled White House is trying to calm the furor. But it is too late.

President Reagan's task now is to restore his credibility, pull together his demoralized team and see what shake-ups in his Government are necessary to prevent a similar debacle in the future.

Already he is receiving advice from his advisers. And as the congressional inquiries go under way, with all the embarrassing revelations it will bring in its wake, attention is focusing particularly on the hapless National Security Council and the way the White House "kitchen cabinet" has been conducting foreign policy "from the basement".

The NSC is accused of circumventing obligations to consult and report to Congress, of ignoring experts and seasoned policy-makers and of behaving like an amateur "pocket directorate".

From the basement have come such dubious policies as the disinformation campaign against Libya, the murky links with private armies helping the Nicaraguan Contra rebels, and now the Iranian caper.

Mr Reagan, fiercely loyal to his associates, has assumed personal responsibility for the Iran operation — which he still believes was worth the risk — and has made clear that he will not seek any scapegoats.

Neither Mr Donald Regan, the abrasive White House Chief of Staff, nor Admiral John Poindexter, the low-key National Security Adviser, is now expected to go. But their growing influence in foreign policy-making is likely to be curtailed sharply.

Mr George Shultz, the Sec-

retary of State, having gone to the brink of resignation, has made clear that he is no William Rogers, able to be outmanoeuvred by a Kissinger at the NSC or a Cyrus Vance, overshadowed by Brezhnev.

The Secretary of State, he has long insisted, is the chief executor of the President's foreign policy.

Others agree. Senator Sam Nunn, the respected Democratic military expert from Georgia, has called for a group of "wise men" to monitor foreign policy and to review the way it is made. Their job

## Washington View

By Michael Binyon

would be to bring real expertise to the decision-making process and to prevent the NSC's getting carried away with hare-brained schemes that had not first been submitted to rigorous assessment by those with the experience of international and security affairs to foresee the likely consequences.

He said a little "house-cleaning" now was the only way to stop Congress from over-reacting to the growing power of the NSC over which

senators and congressmen have no constitutional control. Ironically, the wise men he was likely to bring in are mostly former NSC men.

For most of his term, Reagan would be Dr Henry Kissinger, the man who more than any other built up the power of the NSC and made it the semi-autonomous body it has since become, able to conduct the kind of covert mission like the opening to China which apparently set the pattern for the secret contacts with Iran.

Other names might include Zbigniew Brzezinski, General Brent Scowcroft, NSC adviser under Presidents Carter and Ford, and James Schlesinger, former Defence Secretary and CIA Director.

There is no sign however, that President Reagan would accept such interference or that it would please Mr Shultz himself. Even if these obstacles were overcome, this might not be enough to satisfy the new Democratic-controlled Congress, which is eager to flex its political muscle and set the agenda for the President's last two years as the 1988 presidential campaign gains momentum.

But clearly Mr Reagan must do something soon to repair the damage overseas, as well

as at home. The patient Mr Shultz, back on board, will now have to tread round the allied capitals, as he did after the Siberian gas pipeline controversy, soothing tempers and rebuilding trust.

The allies have enough other concerns common to them all to make the effort to put all this behind them.

But in the Middle East it is another matter. The moderate Arabs have been shaken, yet again, by what they see as deception in Washington. The overt Israeli connection will do nothing to assuage their fears that the Administration's Middle East policy is virtually dictated from Jerusalem. They find it inexplicable that the US should have sold arms to Iran when even President Reagan blamed Iran for the continuation of the Gulf War and insisted that Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states should be helped to resist the spread of Iranian revolutionary fundamentalism.

What now can be salvaged from the attempt to woo Iran, so obviously the big strategic prize for the United States and the Soviet Union alike? Very little, it seems. Mr Reagan insisted that he will continue the contacts with "moderate Iranians". Senator Barry Goldwater, voicing the scepticism of many here, says that there are none. And the ayatollahs themselves, with nothing but scorn for the "great Satan", are even now rejoicing in Washington's discomfort.

Such moderates as were able to talk to Mr Robert McFarlane, the leader of the mission, must now be in fear for their lives.

The affair has temporarily thrown into confusion all of US policy, but the Administration cannot allow itself to be demoralized and distracted for too long.

## England in 'needle' chess draw

From Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent, Dubai

England, the second seeds, let slip an early 2-0 lead against the Olympic title favourites and tournament leaders, the Soviet Union, in yesterday's needle match here. It ended 2-2 to leave the Russians half a point ahead after six matches.

The world champion, Gary Kasparov, aged 23, beat England's top board, Tony Miles, and Artur Yusupov defeated Nigel Short. Earlier John Nunn, on the second board, had crushed Andrei Sokolov, and Murray Chandler had rapidly overcome the resistance of Rafael Vaganian after only three hours of play.

The USSR now has 17½ points, and England 17. Before yesterday's match England had shared second place with Yugoslavia and Cuba after five rounds, on 15 points from 20 games. Iceland, Argentina and Bulgaria had 14½, and Hungary and Scotland 14.

Yesterday Yugoslavia led Cuba 1½-½, with two games adjourned.

In the previous two rounds England had distinguished themselves by despatching two strongly fancied teams, the United States and Hungary, each time by 2½-1½.

The English team, silver medalists in the 1984 Thessaloniki Olympics, are fancied by experts to have outstanding chances for the silver again.

The English women's team is also putting up a splendid performance. Yesterday the side drew 1-1 with one adjourned against China, the joint leaders. Again the Soviet Union leads, with England in joint third place.

11/24/86 1:52



## Botha names new envoy to Washington and attacks 'revolting' US

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa announced yesterday the appointment of Dr Piet Koornhof, a former senior Cabinet minister responsible for black affairs, as its Ambassador to Washington. He is expected to take up the post, probably the toughest in South African diplomacy, in the New Year.

The appointment coincided with a scathing attack on the Reagan Administration by President Botha, who accused Washington of behaving in a way that was "revolting and unworthy of a nation such as the United States".

President Botha's remarks, unusually bitter even by South African standards, reflect the low ebb to which Pretoria's relations with Washington have sunk since the imposition by Congress of economic sanctions against this country in October.

The more recent decisions of General Motors, IBM and other American multi-national companies to sell or wind up their operations in South Africa have also helped to fuel the anti-American mood.

Opening a new medical centre in the Cape coastal town of George, Mr Botha said the United States had "declared an economic war

against us for the most absurd and unprovoked reasons: in so doing, they have yet again taken up the sword against us on behalf of the Soviet Union".

He referred to what he termed the US Government's "insulting plan to send an official to South Africa, ostensibly to investigate health conditions in terms of its anti-South African legislation".

Last Monday, Pretoria announced that it had refused to grant a visa to an American aid official, Miss Christine Babcock, who was to make a report on health conditions and malnutrition in South Africa's tribal homelands.

Article 502 of the Anti-Apartheid Act, which contains the sanctions measures adopted by Congress, calls for such a report to be submitted to the US legislature by December 1.

"The US Government should be under no illusion whatsoever that we will tolerate such blatant hostility and objectionable interference in our domestic affairs, by officially sanctioning an offensive act of this nature," President Botha said.

"If the US Government is really so deeply concerned about the health conditions in Africa, it will find some 50

states to the north of South Africa where it can conduct investigations if its conscience allows, and play a moralistic role where it is much more needed."

The announcement of Dr Koornhof's appointment was preceded by the arrival here of Washington's Ambassador, Mr Edward Perkins, the first black American to hold the post, which is seen as marking the end of the policy of "constructive engagement" and as heralding a return to the tense relations of the Carter era.

Now aged 61, Dr Koornhof was a Rhodes Scholar in the early 1950s, and wrote a doctoral thesis entitled *The Drift from the Reserves among the South African Bantu*, which presciently predicted the inevitability of black urbanization.

When he became a minister, however, Dr Koornhof joined in implementing policies which ignored the findings of his post-graduate research by trying to reverse the movement of blacks to the towns. In 1979, he created a stir in the US by saying that apartheid was the world knew it was "dead or dying". This earned him a reputation as a liberal which his performance in office never justified.



The Pope, escorted by a spear-wielding Fijian warrior, blessing a crowd in Suva yesterday, the latest stop on his six-nation Pacific tour. Earlier he sampled a potent local pepper-plant drink, kava, once described by missionaries as devil worship.

## Russians force out 60,000 Afghans

By Nicholas Beeson

The number of Afghan refugees fleeing their country last month quadrupled as a result of a Soviet scorched-earth policy, a British relief worker, who has just returned from the region, said.

Mr Barry Langridge, the Christian Aid project officer for India and Pakistan, who visited Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan earlier this month, said that most families came from Afghanistan's northern provinces where they said

Soviet forces had systematically destroyed crops and other economic targets.

He said unofficial figures for October showed that between 50,000 and 60,000 refugees, half of them children, had entered Pakistan's Baluchistan and North-West Frontier provinces.

He said the refugees spoke of a systematic policy by the Soviet occupation forces of destroying crops, thereby making it impossible for families to survive the winter.

The October refugee figures are four times greater than the previous month. An estimated three million Afghans live in refugee camps in Pakistan and a further 1.5 million in Iran.

ISLAMABAD: The resignation of President Babrak Karmal has removed a symbol of the 1979 Soviet intervention from the public eye days before the arrival of a United Nations mediation mission in Kabul (Reuters reports).

But Western diplomats in Islamabad do not see the move

as signalling any significant change in the government's policies at home or abroad. Mr Karmal's removal from the largely symbolic presidency had been expected almost daily.

The announcement came on Thursday night on Kabul Radio after meetings of the Central Committee of the (communist) People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), and of the parliamentary-style Revolutionary Council.

## Thousands flee island volcano eruption

From David Watts Tokyo

Thousands of people were being shuttled to the mainland last night after an erupting volcano threatened their lives on the island of Izu Oshima.

A rescue centre was set up in Tokyo 70 miles away and 13,000 people ordered off the island as two ferries and 29 boats of the Maritime Self-Defence Agency removed families. Lava flowed to within 100 yards of the island's main town, Motomachi, from Mount Mihara and smoke and lava rock were thrown 1,500 ft into the air. It was the worst eruption of the mountain since 1777.

Tokyo television stations cancelled normal programming to carry hours of live coverage of the eruption and rescue because the island was shaken by 70 tremors an hour before the main eruption.

Izu Oshima lies close to the fault line which might cause an earthquake in Tokyo. Responsible government agencies met in emergency session and disaster relief law will be applied.

The mountain had been erupting steadily for the past week but then there was a series of violent explosions and a fissure 200 yards wide opened up. Later another appeared and lava threatened the island's airport.

## Austrian election

### Socialists may be coalition juniors

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

Austrians go to the polls tomorrow in an election which is expected to end 16 years of predominantly socialist government.

It is doubtful, in the tradition of consensus politics in the country, whether it will change much else.

Latest unofficial polls give the opposition People's Party a lead of 2 per cent. But even if the Socialists lose their relative majority they may still find themselves in government, as the junior partner in a coalition with the People's Party.

The election will confront voters with a number of factors new to Austrian politics which

may upset normal predictions.

It is the first in which the Freedom Party is engaged as a body with four years of experience in government, albeit as the junior partners of the Socialists.

It is also the first in which the People's Party's somewhat lacklustre leader, Herr Alois Mock, is pitted against a Socialist less charismatic than Dr Bruno Kreisky, who retired after the last general election in 1983.

Moreover the Greens, for the first time, though split into several factions, stand a fair chance of achieving their first representation in the Austrian Parliament.

The irony is that after this summer's change of Cabinet, which replaced the unfortunate Dr Fred Sinowatz with Dr Franz Vranitzky, the Austrian Cabinet is looking more impressive than it has done for years.

Dr Vranitzky and Dr Peter Jankowitsch, his Foreign Minister, have in a matter of months instilled a new air of professionalism into a Government which under Dr Sinowatz had become an easy source of ridicule.

This is, however, unlikely to impress voters who, though unwilling to ask for details of any party's programme, nonetheless feel that there is some vague need for change. Quite what it will involve and who is capable of carrying it out remain for most Austrians nebulous concepts.

In a democracy as young as Austria's, where people are used to being administered rather than governed, the voting tomorrow is only the opening salvo in the battle for the composition of the next Cabinet.

Ultimately the character of the next Government will be decided by the party committees who, once the results are announced, will go into private debate next week on the details of any coalition deal.



The two senior poll rivals: Dr Franz Vranitzky, above, and Herr Alois Mock.



## Damascus envoy flees prosecutor

Ankara (Reuters) - Mr Muhammad Darwiche Baladi, the second secretary at the Syrian Embassy, left Turkey before a prosecutor could accuse him of involvement in the killing of a Jordanian diplomat, Foreign Ministry officials said yesterday.

A State Security Court prosecutor said Mr Baladi would be one of nine people indicted over the killing of Mr Ziyad al-Sani, the first secretary at the Jordanian Embassy, last year.

Six of the accused are in custody - four Palestinian students, a Turk of Iranian origin and a Jordanian Embassy translator, Mr Adnan Musa Sulaiman Ameri. Press reports say that he named Syria as having been involved in the killing.

The indictment is the first official accusation in Turkey of Syrian involvement in Middle East violence, but diplomats say that Ankara is unlikely to take further action against Damascus.

Diplomatic pressure denied: A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Mr Baladi, who is in his early 40s, might have been recalled by the Syrian Government and that Turkey had not exerted diplomatic pressure for him to leave (Rasit Gurdik writes).

## Brain-sale scientist imprisoned

From Roger Boyes East Europe Correspondent

The Hungarian doctor who masterminded a bizarre East-West corruption scandal in which 5,000 human brains were sold illegally to a Western pharmaceutical company has been jailed for three years and eight months, according to official press reports.

The prosecutor in the Szeged provincial court has appealed against the sentence, declaring that the erstwhile deputy head of the local medical academy, Professor Ferenc Laszlo, should also be stripped of his doctor's title.

The case has shocked Hungarians, who regard doctors with huge respect.

Professor Laszlo struck a deal to supply pituitary glands stolen from corpses delivered to the Szeged academy anatomy department to an Italian company and paid laboratory workers to deliver several brains a week.

Over 10 years he managed to dispose of some 5,000 brains, netting at least four million forints (£60,000) which he said had benefited the academy with increased supplies. His Italian customers also covered his costs during trips abroad.

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## Whitehall accused over Pincher book

# Judge's suspicions stun hearing

From Stephen Taylor  
Sydney

### THE M15 CASE

Mr Justice Powell stunned the M15 book hearing here yesterday by indicating that he suspected that the British Government had secretly authorized a book with the same theme as that by Peter Wright which it is trying to suppress.

The Judge said in no uncertain terms that he was troubled about the explanation advanced in the witness box over the past four days by Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, about why there was no attempt to stop publication of *Their Trade is Treachery*. Chapman Pincher's account of the investigation of Sir Roger Hollis.

The Judge's statement in the New South Wales Supreme Court was accompanied by a clear direction that he believed that the British side had the responsibility to remove any misunderstanding on his part.

During evidence on the decision by the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers — who has been described by the defence side as one of Mr Pincher's "better contacts" — not to try to stop the highly-sensitive disclosures made in the book, the Judge said: "I am puzzled why someone did not just hot foot it up the Strand with an *ex-parte* injunction and an Anton Piller order (a sweeping seizure order to impound every copy of the book and the manuscript). I find it very difficult at the moment to think of a reason why it wasn't done."

"If there were no legitimate reasons why it was not done, no legal reason why it could not be done, then I would find myself pushed further and further towards the view that

the Government knew exactly what was being done and it wasn't going to take a step to stop it.

"And if that is so, it is no great step towards saying the Government authorized it to be published."

On Thursday the court went into closed session for more than an hour after Sir Robert declined to answer in public a suggestion that Lord Victor Rothschild, a senior Conservative Party adviser, had procured publication of the Pincher book.

The Judge said yesterday it had been shown in evidence that M15 had proofs of the book six weeks before publication and gave them to the Government.

"I do not see how they could have failed to get an *ex-parte* injunction — even a lowly colonial judge like myself — which I shall remain after this case," he added to laughter.

To Mr Theo Simos, QC, for the Government, who said he trusted that the Judge would keep an open mind, Mr Justice Powell said: "We have a long way to go in this case. I

have a habit, whether fortunate or not, I don't know, when I am troubled and puzzled I tell those involved so they have an adequate opportunity of removing any error or misconception I may be making."

This development emerged from cross-examination of Sir Robert by Mr Malcolm Turnbull, for Mr Wright, who has been probing for four days on the Cabinet Secretary's sworn answer to written interrogatory No 150 on why no action had been taken to restrain publication of *Their Trade is Treachery*.

The written answer, signed by Sir Robert on October 6, was: "The plaintiff was advised that it had no basis to restrain the publication of the book."

Yesterday Mr Turnbull said that two joint explanations had been offered by Sir Robert for Sir Michael's decision: that to stop the book the Government would have needed to know the source who had leaked highly-classified material to Mr Pincher (and that it did not); and that the

Government was concerned to protect the source who had given the pre-publication proofs to M15.

The first explanation did not apply, Mr Turnbull said, because the Government had stopped the Nigel West book, *A Matter of Trust*, when, by Sir Robert's own admission, he was not sure that the main source had been identified.

The second explanation, Mr Turnbull said, did not stand up because numerous people could have seen the proofs. It was "utter humbug" to suggest that to disclose that the Government had the book could have identified the source.

Sir Robert said he had believed it was preferable that the Pincher book not be published and he would have assumed there was a legal basis for action to suppress it.

Mr Turnbull put it to Sir Robert that he had been surprised when he was advised that Sir Michael had decided against an injunction.

Sir Robert said: "I was resigned, I was not surprised." He did not argue questions of law with the Attorney-General. Mr Turnbull then passed a piece of paper to Sir Robert, suggesting that it bore

the name of the source who had provided M15 with the Pincher book proofs.

"I have no reason to think so," Sir Robert replied.

It was this exchange that prompted Mr Justice Powell's statement, and after it Mr Turnbull resumed his line of argument.

"The evidence Sir Robert has given concerning the Attorney-General's advice is palpably false," he said. That was unless "the Attorney-General was surrounded by legal incompetence, which I am sure is not the case."

He added: "Why was Sir Robert giving false evidence in a matter so important as this? The natural explanation could be that he and the Government has something to hide."

Why, he asked again, was the Government seeking to suppress the Wright book when its main allegation had been reported widely. The central claim, that Sir Roger Hollis was a Soviet double agent, was hardly novel, was it?

Sir Robert said that, in addition to Mr Wright's breach of his duty of confidentiality, the book was a "comprehensive" account of his service between 1955 and 1956.

Mr Turnbull disputed his definition of comprehensive. "It says nothing about his service in Northern Ireland, does it?"

Sir Robert: I believe not. Mr Turnbull: It was an important part of his life in the service, wasn't it?

Sir Robert: I believe so. Mr Turnbull: Mr Wright has gone to great pains, to ensure that there is nothing in his book to affect current operations of M15.

Sir Robert will start his fifth day in the witness box after the weekend.

## Family tribute at Kennedy grave



On the anniversary of the 1963 assassination of President Kennedy, brother, Edward helps his sister-in-law, Mrs Ethel Kennedy, to her feet, while two of her daughters Kerry, right, and Rory kneel before the flame of remembrance on the President's grave in Arlington.

## Economic optimism and civil liberties return to Uruguay

From Eduardo Cui, Montevideo

The streets of the Uruguayan capital have come alive after more than a decade of harsh military rule.

From the Plaza de la Libertad to the Plaza de la Independencia along the city's main thoroughfare, the pavements and restaurants are crowded with people enjoying the River Plate spring.

Many of the books and magazines they buy and the films they watch were banned under the 1973-1985 dictatorship, which put an end to one of the longest periods of democratic rule in recent Latin American history. In the 19 months since the military relinquished power, the country's three million people have returned to their old democratic habits.

In practice, if not always in law, the civil liberties in force during the 29 years of democracy preceding the military coup have been restored by the Government of President Julio María Sanguinetti.

In foreign affairs there is broad consensus for a policy of non-alignment. Uruguay's image abroad has been improved not only by the return to democratic rule but also by the international prestige of its Foreign Minister, Señor Enrique Iglesias, the chairman of the Gatt talks and a leading candidate to become Unesco's next secretary-general.

"The future is conceived here as a betterment of the past before the military dictatorship," Señor José María del Rey, a lawyer and university professor, said.

A key reason for the renewed optimism is the upturn in the economy. The combined drop in world oil prices and interest rates and a sharp rise in exports are expected to translate into a 2 per cent GDP growth rate this year.

While modest, it compares favourably with last year's zero growth and is a significant improvement over the 2.4 per cent negative growth rate registered in 1984.

With real wages rising and a high but declining 11 per cent unemployment rate, inflation

is the only dark factor in the economy. The price index is expected to rise by 70 per cent this year, about 15 per cent higher than in 1984. "The basic problem," says a Western diplomat, "is how to maintain the standard of living and the social services on a limited economic base and in a market that is too small to sustain industry."

Uruguay is an agricultural country which relies on exports of wool, meat, leather and dairy products for its foreign exchange revenue. Observers here say that its future growth will depend largely on how well it can develop its role as a provider of goods and services to Argentina.



President Sanguinetti: civil liberties restored.

tina and Brazil, its two huge neighbours to the west and north.

Brazil, for example, has made large purchases of meat in Uruguay this year, a trend that is expected to continue. The free exchange rate has turned Montevideo into a regional banking centre, and its large and relatively well-educated middle class is one of its main assets.

The two main opposition parties and the labour movement attribute the economic upturn to external factors and say that government policies have failed to spur internal demand and increase production.

The Frente Amplio and National parties, which together hold a majority in both Houses of Congress, also argue that the military continues to exercise undue influence over political life.

"The dictatorship created serious scars in the political, economic and social structure of the country. The 19 months of democracy have not brought about fundamental changes," says Señor José D'Elia, president of the PIT-CNT, Uruguay's sole labour organization, which groups together 47 unions.

"We have not been given back the social benefits that were taken away by the dictatorship," he says, pointing out that pension, unemployment and health insurance benefits sharply reduced during the military regime have not been restored.

Señor D'Elia believes that the country should stop interest payments on the foreign debt and that the military and police budgets should be reduced sharply.

The military budget has not been reduced significantly, as a way of keeping the armed forces calm. Some 30,000 men remain in uniform, only slightly fewer than in Argentina which has a population 10 times greater. The defence and interior ministries account for 40 per cent of total public spending.

But the efforts to appease the military have failed because the Government has not been able to convince Congress that it should grant former military commanders an unconditional amnesty for human rights violations during the dictatorship.

The controversy has paralyzed political life and it now appears likely that Congress will be dissolved and early legislative elections held in an effort to break the deadlock.

"Apart from the issue of amnesty, Uruguay is sailing in fairly smooth waters at the moment and is trying desperately to be an example of democracy in Latin America."

## Pol Pot's 'illness' a mystery

From Neil Kelly  
Bangkok

The whereabouts of Pol Pot, the Khmer Rouge leader blamed for the slaughter of large numbers of Cambodians during his years in power, is the subject of increasing speculation in South-East Asia.

In recent days he has been reported seriously ill in China, in hospital in Bangkok and giving lectures on military affairs in Cambodia.

Reports quoting diplomatic sources that he is ill in China, with malaria, diabetes and high blood pressure, have been denied by Mr Mak Ben, an official of the anti-Vietnamese coalition government in Cambodia.

He said Pol Pot was conducting classes for military commanders in the mountains of south-west Cambodia.

A senior Thai official on the Cambodian border, however, said he understood that Pol Pot, who is 61, went to hospital in Bangkok last month. Thai authorities have made no comment.

## Guilty plea on £5.5m drug deal

Sydney (Reuters) — Bruce Cornwell and Barry Bull pleaded guilty yesterday to smuggling two tons of cannabis worth \$Aus 12 million (£5.5 million) into Australia from Thailand.

Cornwell was deported from Britain and Bull from Austria earlier this year to face 50 charges connected with heroin and cannabis dealing.

### Fossil found

Wellington (Reuters) — The discovery in New Zealand of a 30-million-year-old penguin fossil, possibly the oldest in the world, may help determine the origin of the flightless species.

### Snow rescue

Delhi (Reuters) — More than 500 people trapped on a snowbound mountain road in Kashmir province have been rescued by air force helicopters and troops.

### Temple fire

Peking (AFP) — The Temple of Enlightenment, which dates back to the 10th century, has been badly damaged by a fire caused by a caretaker's negligence.

### Death catch

Peking (AFP) — Six people were killed and 20 were injured when a floating mine taken aboard a fishing boat on China's south-west coast exploded, sinking six boats and damaging 100 houses.

### Milk ban

Rio de Janeiro (Reuters) — The São Paulo state has banned imports of milk powder from Europe until health officials carry out radiation tests on it, a state health secretariat official said.

## Ceausescu goes his own way with poll

By Roger Boyes, East Europe Correspondent

Romania this weekend stages an unusual referendum to muster support for a government proposal to cut by 5 per cent the country's troop levels, and armaments and defence spending.

In pursuit of a magical 99.9 per cent turnout, party activists have been laying on buses for villagers in remote areas and rearranging shifts in enterprises such as coal mines and oil refineries which work on Sunday.

University students will report to colleges and go on to the ballot box. Hospitals will have special voting facilities, so that the sick need not lose an opportunity to approve the cuts suggested by President Ceausescu.

The unilateral offer, as with others in the past, is being described in the official press as historic. The idea was floated by Mr Ceausescu in September, partly to demonstrate that he is still capable of striking independent postures within the Soviet bloc.

When leaders of the Warsaw Pact nations met in Budapest in June they agreed

on a package of proposals to make — embracing nuclear, chemical and conventional cuts — and suggested a phased 25 per cent reduction in defence spending until 1990.

This was in line with long-standing Romanian initiatives. But Mr Ceausescu wanted the Pact nations to go further, and made known that he wanted a unilateral gesture. He was overruled, and decided to go it alone.

The use of the referendum is interesting. Although referenda have been used occasionally in eastern Europe, especially after the war, there is no provision for them in the Romanian Constitution.

Romanian reference works, indeed, describe plebiscites as "suspicious procedure manipulated by capitalist governments". But there are three reasons for his move.

First, Mr Ceausescu wants to show that Romania's relatively independent stand from Moscow has national backing. This enhances his importance, attracts Western applause — and perhaps

makes Moscow think twice before encouraging internal rivals.

Second, the referendum is intended to outflank the military, which is highly likely to be unhappy about the proposed cuts. Although the defence budget has been cut several times before — the 1986 budget is already lower than that of 1985 — the proposals also envisage cuts in both personnel and arms.

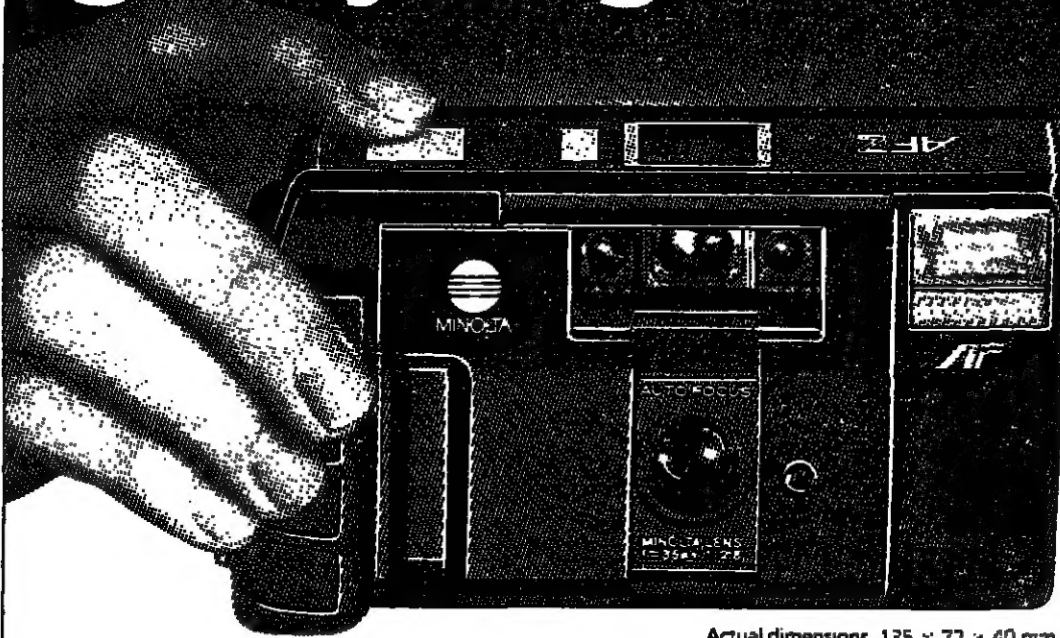
The Romanian general staff would be content with a smaller army if more funds were made available for modernization, but this is not the case and the officers are feeling the squeeze.

If, as expected, the referendum result supports Mr Ceausescu almost 100 per cent, he will be able to ignore any rumblings in the army.

Finally, the defence cuts should free more money and manpower for the ailing economy. This view is shared by the Hungarians, who have argued for a more effective use of defence spending rather than constant expansion.

## Romania votes on troops cut

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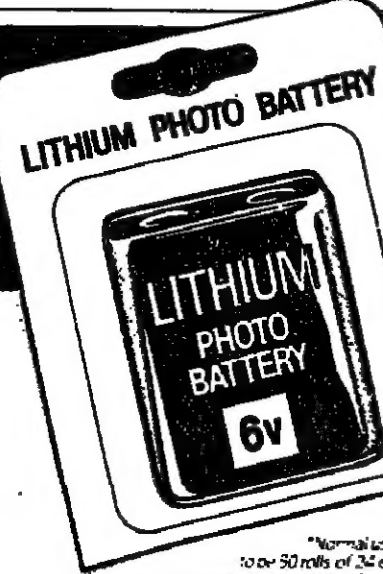
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MINOLTA



November 22-28, 1986

# SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts

## Staging a Palace revolution

Fifty years ago this month, the Crystal Palace went up in flames. For the young Richard Dimbleby and his sound engineer, it was a chance to make radio history. David Howarth, who was that engineer, tells the story

I might have been made for us. The first news came on the agency tapes at about six o'clock, just after the final editions of the evening papers. The story was ours alone until the morning — if we could get it. Few people are blasé enough to resist a good fire, and this was a perfect fire. I couldn't find Richard when the news came in. He was not in Broadcasting House so I left messages for him everywhere, rang the engineer in charge of the mobile recording unit nicknamed the "laundry van", who simply said, "We'll be there", and drove off in my Invicta, taking a senior man in News who wanted to come and watch.

We were bound for Sydenham in south London and the Crystal Palace, which had been moved there from Hyde Park after the Great Exhibition of 1851. Joseph Paxton's dramatic edifice of iron and glass had been one of the wonders of the Victorian age. Now it was ablaze.

Richard and I had been thorough. Among other things, we had worked out and explored the quickest ways out of London, at various times of day, to anywhere in the country. There were surprisingly few of them, seven I think, and Sydenham was on one of them. So it was easy. I knew the short cuts.

There were police checks where traffic was being diverted, but we had been issued with press passes and we were waved through. As we got closer the streets were full of fire engines all going hell for leather in the same direction and I joined them, flashing through the red traffic lights, a driver's dream.

It must have been 6.45pm when I got there and parked the car outside a café in the main road opposite the building, which was already blazing magnificently. The laundry van came in by the same route, attaching itself to the fire brigade. And so did Richard. I don't know how he got there, but there he suddenly was, and I had never been more glad to see him.

There were scores of fire engines already and more were coming in all the time, but with his journalistic instinct and skill he almost

instantly found the Commander of the London Fire Brigade himself ("David, his name's Firebrace, isn't it, perfect?") — not only found him but insisted he had to take him inside the building and, escorted by that dignity, he vanished through its front gates.

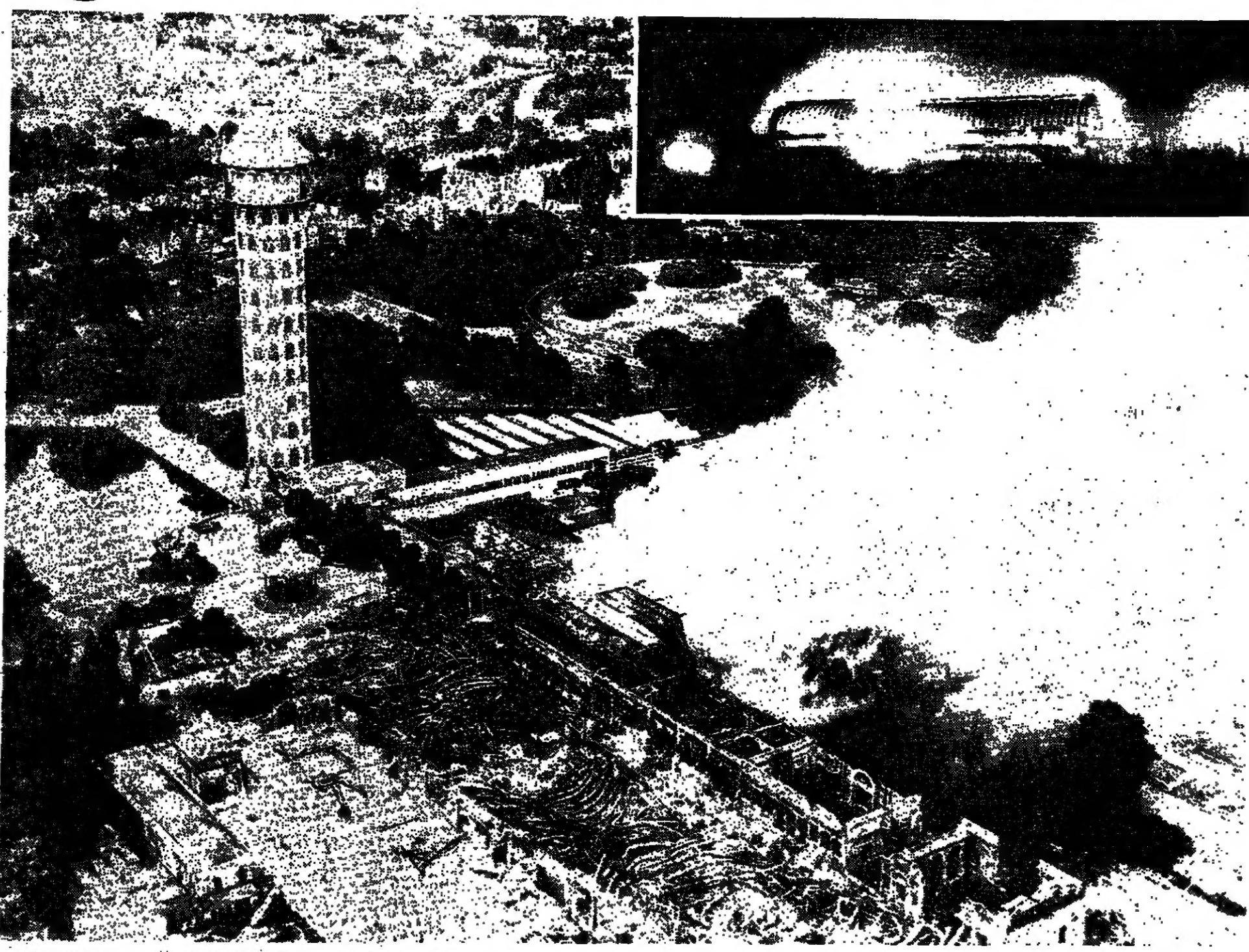
I went round the back as a stand-by with a lesser fireman, just in case Richard never came out again — which did not look unlikely. We all knew what to do without telling each other: be ready to record before eight o'clock and get the discs back to Broadcasting House in time for the nine o'clock news.

There was a strong wind blowing, in the eddy behind the building there was a space that was reasonably safe: overhead was a vast arch of burning embers. I don't think anyone had thought the Crystal Palace could burn, built as it was of iron and glass, and I still do not know exactly why it did. It may have had a wooden floor, and the iron-work certainly had a century of paint, and there was putty holding the glass.

As soon as one end fell in it all made a huge wind-tunnel with a draught through it like a furnace. It was quite impossible to get in from the back, as I had hoped. On that side there was a row of glass corridors leading down to the gardens, and out of each a river of molten glass was flowing, and solidifying like lava when it cooled.

Further in, iron girders were dropping, and folding like sticks of spaghetti dipped in a boiling saucepan, and further out, in the garden, the trees were beginning to crackle. I got out again pretty quickly and ran back to the café and the laundry van and there was Richard, deliciously happy, black and minus his eyebrows, scribbling his script.

Typically, he knew the whole history of the place by then, its vital statistics, who had designed it and above all what the fire brigade was doing. They had sent out a first-class call, which meant that every fire engine in London was there. I don't think they were trying by then to save the building — that was going to burn itself out. They



Crystal blazing: the flaming buildings light up the sky (inset) leaving a scene of smouldering devastation. At the height of the blaze, girders drooped above a river of molten glass

were there to save the shops and houses all around.

But we did not record. By eight o'clock it was obvious that if we cut discs we could not get them away and back to Broadcasting House in time for the news. It would take all night. To start with, my car and the van were both surrounded by a web of hoses all over the road. Nobody could unravel them, and we certainly could not drive over them. Commander Firebrace was tolerant but he put his foot down at that.

Beyond them, the main roads were full of fire engines and policemen and unnecessary ambulances, and the side roads were already black and blocked by crowds of people watching. The answer came to all of us at once. Richard, or it may have been me, timidly asked the senior engineer, "Could you hook up your amplifiers to a telephone line?"

"Don't see why not," he said, "if you'll carry the can. Nothing else for it, is there?"

By a stroke of luck, a BBC man much senior to us had turned up to see the fun. He was the respected S. J. de Louvois, head of outside broadcasts. Normally, his outside broadcast lines were corrected and balanced from

ordinary telephone lines. He had no gear with him, and no engineers, but we had. We put it to him.

"Nobody's ever done it, so far as I know," he said. "But if there was ever a time to try, it's now. If you need me, I'll share the blame."

So we invaded the café and rang Broadcasting House, and somebody told the Post Office to keep the line open whatever happened. Then the engineers pulled the telephone off the wall and connected the amplifier, mixer and microphone. It was about 8.40pm: 20 minutes to go.

The excitement even got to the Control Room at Broadcasting House, normally the most phlegmatic of places, where philosophical calm was the rule. I think someone had rung the chief engineer of the BBC himself. I don't know what he said, but it wasn't "No". They could hear us. The quality, they said, was not good, but they supposed we knew what we were doing.

One of us had an ordinary radio receiver (it may have belonged to the café) so we could hear our cue, and they must have fixed a long lead on it, because I could hear the programme on headphones. I stood in the open with one microphone for background

sound and Richard with another was in the café doorway where it was quieter. The engineers inside the café were mixing the two. There were several minutes before nine o'clock but we had no time to test anything. It was either going to work triumphantly or fail disastrously.

The announcer was droning on, the usual dreary introduction to the news — and then it came, in the most sceptical, doubtful and uncertain terms. "We hope to take you over to the Crystal Palace, where our observer has been watching." And in the headphones I heard the shouts, the fire engine bells and the deep bass roar of the flames from the microphone I was holding. I signalled Richard, and he started. We were on. It was ecstatic.

That was far and away the most exciting and dramatic news broadcast there had ever been. We knew it was, and felt it proved everything Richard had been preaching for so long. But we could not know that night what the high command would think, because our line was only working one way.

The immediate effect was

something we had not expected, or had not worried about. There had been crowds before, but the broadcast brought out most of south London. People who tried to come by car were turned back miles away, but a million or so must have lived within walking distance, and walk they did.

They were blocking every street, crowding every park, standing on roof tops and craning out of upstairs windows. That did not please the police or the fire brigade, but it made a wonderful evening.

We did another broadcast that night in the final news at 10.15pm. It could have been second best, but at about 10 o'clock there was a crisis. Richard, of course, was always true to BBC tradition; he never exaggerated, expressed his own opinion, or relied on hearsay. But he was never averse to drama if it came his way.

"Urgent message from the Chief of the London Fire Brigade," he began. "Ancrey Hill is dangerous." Ancrey Hill is the steep main road running down from the west end of the Palace. "There are fears that west tower at the top of the hill may fall. It has a water tank on top with 100,000 gallons of water in it

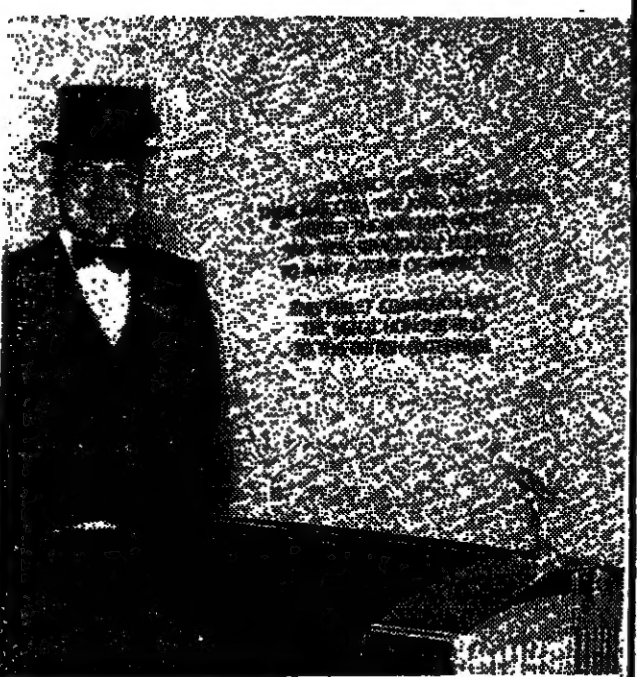
[he knew the exact figure] and if it falls a huge wave of water is going to pour down the hill.

"Please clear Ancrey Hill at once. Get on to the higher ground to the west, or get into houses and go upstairs. I can see the tower from here, and hundreds of firemen playing their hoses on it, but it is smoking or steaming right up to the top. So I repeat the

urgent message — please get off Ancrey Hill."

The danger was real, but in the event the firemen saved the tower. Indeed both towers — there was one at each end of the building — survived but were demolished five years later because of fears that they would provide a target for German bombers.

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### 'A gale of fresh air in the news room'

In September 1936 something unexpected happened in the BBC. A friend said: "There's a new man in News." What he said was an understatement. The new man was Richard Dimbleby. A gale of fresh air was about to blow through the news room. A new era in broadcasting was about to begin.

He was a year younger than I, 23 when he joined the BBC. He had been a journalist since he left school and was then the editor of *The Advertiser's Weekly*, the youngest editor, he claimed, in Fleet Street. He had had the nerve to write to the BBC news editor, pointing out that broadcast news was accurate and reliable but deadly dull.

Indeed it was. It all came from agencies and always began with the formula "Here is the news, copyright by Reuters, Press Association and Exchange Telegraph and Central News."

Richard proposed a way of making it more exciting: he would go out and cover the stories himself. At first, he was hampered by the BBC's demands for superb sound quality, demands which could only be satisfied by a seven-man recording van. And he was obliged to continue recording his reports on to 12-inch wax discs, which then had to be



Breaking the sound barrier: Dimbleby (left), Howarth

sent back to Broadcasting House or one of the BBC's regional studios.

All the same, we managed to cover a surprising amount of news.

Very slowly, Richard's ideas of news presentation began to be accepted in the BBC, and listeners liked them as well. We went to ship launches, shipwrecks, mining disasters, floods — the strange sort of things that are counted as news in Fleet Street.

I did not always go on his

expeditions. I was second in command of sound recording, which meant I was marginally too senior to disappear without warning. But I was there for what I might call Richard's apotheosis. That was the night the Crystal Palace burned down.

It was a breakthrough for radio reporting. From now on the story came first and perfect sound quality second. It was accepted that when something important happened, Richard would be there.

● The Crystal Palace was designed by Sir Joseph Paxton, a former gardener's boy who had designed conservatories for the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth.

● The Great Exhibition was opened by Queen Victoria in Hyde Park on May 1, 1851, and attracted six million visitors.

● After the exhibition closed the Government refused to allow the Crystal Palace to remain in Hyde Park. So it was dismantled and rebuilt on a hilltop site in Sydenham, then a rural area of south London. The new palace was half as long again as the original, with 282ft high water towers at each end.

● Among foreign dignitaries entertained at the palace were Napoleon III, the Sultan of Turkey, Tsar Alexander of Russia and the Kaiser. It also became famous for plays and concerts and spectacular fireworks displays.

● But it was not a financial success and in 1909 the receiver was called in. Four years later ownership passed to the nation.

● After the First World War it was the first home of the Imperial War Museum, while continuing to promote concerts and exhibitions.

● The fire is thought to have begun in a staff lavatory. The palace was empty apart from a group of musicians who were quickly evacuated and no one was injured. The cause of the fire was never established.

**SATURDAY**

A first taste of the new vintage: our expert guide to 1986 Beaujolais nouveau - page 13

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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

# TRAVEL 1

## Wild days and wilder nights, safari-style

In the darkness a yard away from my right ear, an alarm bell exploded. It shattered the croaking, rumbling, chattering rhythm of the African night. Outside the Ark, a ship-shaped building and animal-watcher's eyrie in the Aberdare Highlands of Kenya, wild animals roam in considerably more than twosomes and it is the humans who are safely caged in their safari cars and game lodges.

At dusk, cloud ranges had gathered above that empty landscape but the bell did not signal 40 days of rain, only that the rhinos were mating. Figures in pyjamas and dressing-gowns drifted through the building towards the viewing gallery from which we could watch the courtship. A sleepy matron, hair in curlers, wished the animals had chosen a more convenient moment.

We fixed our binoculars on a floodlit salt lick and saw immediately that the first announcement was either too late or far too soon. There was a rhino right enough, a great dark beast of a rhino representing one of Africa's most endangered, poached-upon species. But beside the animal was its small, plump infant.

Getting out of bed in the middle of the night and watching in hushed concentration as wild animals wander through their natural lives sharpens the experience. The tour began in the rolling Kikuyu home-lands, a stretched version of the South Downs, where it was difficult, drinking tea poured from a silver pot on the veranda of the Aberdare Country Club, to grasp that the land out there was wild Africa.

Along the rough track that tested the suspension of a Toyota Land Cruiser (where have all the Land Rovers gone?) we were soon among the good, the bad and the ugly

### Ronald Faux drifts over the plains and sleeps under canvas, on a luxurious trail for Kenya's abundant animal life

of the animal kingdom; gentle bushbuck, mean-tempered buffalo and the unprepossessing warthog. The Ark raised the curtain on a spectacular trip to the Maasai Mara game reserve arranged by Robin Hurt, whose aim was to provide a safari that was a cut above all others.

While we were in the Aberdare watching the busy life at the water-hole, a lorry

### 'Preying and preyed on in well-ordered, totally natural society'

loaded with a fridge, tent, tables and a crew of cooks and assistant cooks was already on its way to the Mara. We caught them up at Governor's Camp, travelling there in a Dakota with art deco interior. The pilot was proud of the fact that his aircraft first took to the air half a century ago. "Tremendous machines," he said, giving the compass a thump.

The Great Rift Valley, that geological axe-blow running down Africa separating Nairobi from the broad plains of Kenya, slid below. The Da-

kota flew between air strips, dropping off passengers and cargo, until we reached Governor's Camp.

Charlie McConnell, who was Hurt's man in the bush and an encyclopaedia of knowledge about the surrounding wildlife, drove us to our camp set up in an isolated grove of trees. It was safari in the old style: individual tents each with dressing-room and porch, a comfortable bed, a bucket of hot water suspended in the tree branches above a canvas cubicle. Just pull the chain and scrub until the bucket empties.

Dinner was excellent, served in a small tent with silver cutlery, candleabra and a waiter in evening dress. In all we were extremely comfortable and secure, part of a different age. An armed Maasai guarded the camp during the night; even so, we found the fridge door scarred with teeth marks one morning from a hyena which had been trying to get at the food inside.

Driving around the game park over the next five days in

our open-topped land cruisers, we saw a wealth of animals. There were prides of lions slumbering and arrogant in the long grass. We interrupted a pair of lions engaged in their lengthy mating ritual, the male looking distinctly heavy-eyed after coupling for the umpteenth time that day. "That's the way with lions," said Charlie. There were animals large, small and tall, preying and preyed-upon in unchanging, well-ordered and totally natural society.

One still dawn we went to nearby Little Governor's Camp, where John Coleman, balloon captain, was directing eight tons of hot air into a canopy the size of a circus tent. The tall lozenge of the Mara Rainbow struggled upright until her brightly-coloured stripes were vertical and eight of us climbed into a large laundry basket. The Captain added a final whiff of hot air that tipped the balance and we left the ground, directed by the faintest breeze, out across the treetops. The basket lurched the upper branches and we passed silently within two feet of a vulture's nest, the female giving us an evil look as we drifted by.

The zephyr carried us at walking pace over the clumps of trees bordering a swollen river and down to grass-top height the other side. We sailed across the river with the brown waters rushing just beneath us, over the smooth island formed by the back of a hippopotamus. Then, with a roar, Mara Rainbow rose to 1,000 feet, Captain Coleman turned off the burner and we drifted on in silence, the sounds of the plain rising to us, the flat wilderness stretching to every horizon. This was the Mara as seen by an eagle.

The landing was more down-to-earth, everyone crouched in a fetal position in the bottom of the basket as



Lap of luxury: a woman and her cat pause for refreshment at a muddy water hole

we touched down. Unfortunately, the ground was covered with nine inches of flood water into which the basket tilted and formed a mighty bow wave. "Not as bad as my last landing into a field that had just been covered in pig slurry," said one passenger stoically. The 90-minute

Crusoe", as one guest called it. The club is a collection of banded - buildings made entirely of thatch - set beneath a grove of casuarina trees, close to a long sickle of flawless beach beside the Indian Ocean. It is a warm, quiet and a quite extraordinary place.

Vanessa Aniere produces excellent food from the most primitive kitchen, borrowing from an international menu of fried seaweed, Japanese-style, pasta served with delicious chilli oil, small sweet pastries called *tostadas* that are a Spanish idea using stale bread. Fresh bread is baked in an old tin trunk sunk in a bed of hot charcoal, and the seafood is rich in variety with a choice of crab or lobster at every meal and the benefit of whatever guests catch on fishing trips from the club, which can range from shark and sailfish to the smaller delicacies yielded by a tropical ocean.

### 'A place of primitive luxury, a five-star Robinson Crusoe'

adventure ended on a patch of dry ground where the recovery team produced breakfast and champagne and a red kite gave a superb aerobically display. The tour ended on the Kenya coast, just north of Malindi, where Vanessa Aniere runs the Club Che-Shele, a place of primitive luxury or "five-star Robinson

## TRAVEL NEWS

### Breaks with tradition

Short breaks in seven European cities over Christmas and the New Year are being run by Travelscene. Prices range from £199 for three nights in Luxembourg at Christmas to £395 for a four-night stay in Venice over the New Year. Other cities include Paris, Rome, Vienna, Amsterdam and Madrid, and travel is by scheduled airlines from Heathrow or Gatwick. Accommodation is in four or five-star hotels. Travelscene: 01-935 1025.

### Top of the Channel hops

French ports are cashing in on the popularity of pre-Christmas shopping trips by Britons. Dunkirk's Auchan hypermarket is opening every Sunday between now and Christmas and most towns have shops which will also be open on November 30, December 14 and December 21.

The Travel Club of Upminster will again be giving an unconditional guarantee against surcharges in its 1987 summer programme. It has also added a guarantee that it will match any competitor which undercuts its prices on an identical holiday. Information: 040 22 25000.

### Railing the waves again

Cunard is marking the return to service of the QE2 next year, after a six-month refit, with a 10-day return "maiden voyage" from Southampton to New York, departing on April 29. Prices range from £870 to £3,770 and include a sightseeing tour of Manhattan. Cunard: 0703 634166.

Philip Ray

## TRAVEL NOTES

A 12-day trip to Africa with five nights on luxury safari, two days in Nairobi and five nights on the coast, costs from £2,067. Flight is by British Airways, which operates a daily service between London and Nairobi. Details from Supertravel, 22 Hans Place, London SW1X 0EP (01-584 5201).

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## TRAVEL 2

# Tough and tumble for the fearless

Shona Crawford Poole in the shadow of Mont Blanc where convenience bows to good skiing

Tennis players and promenaders dressed in the bright of 1920s fashion swan about the lawns of Chamonix. An Amalcar, or is it an early Peugeot, gleams before its steps and three flags fly above its complicated mansard roof. One is a tricolor, of course. There is a star and stripes too which, since Chamonix was an hotel of international repute, is only to be expected. But the third, a red ensign, remains a puzzle despite an intimate acquaintance with the scene painted as a poster which hangs a couple of streets away in the dining room of the Hotel Albert Premier.

Was the red ensign just a mistake on the part of Monsieur Faria from whose atelier it came, or is there a forgotten story to tell? If there is, it is not to be found at the Musée Alpin, which is housed in a few rooms of the once magnificent Chachats.

There, sharing space with the broken ropes and battered water bottles of mountaineering disasters long ago, is a photograph of Monsieur and Madame Coutet's telescope on wheels, which permitted visitors to view the alpinists attempting Mont Blanc from the relative safety of the town's main street.

Europe's highest mountain has long been a powerful draw to visitors. In the 18th century they arrived by horse or mule-drawn charabancs via bridges so narrow that the passengers had to carry the carts across them. Now motorways link Chamonix with the rest of France, and via the nearby Mont Blanc Tunnel, opened in 1965, with Italy.

It is these good modern roads which make the town such an excellent base for skiers who prize variety and choice above the convenience

of sliding on to pistes literally at the doorstep.

Five miles up the valley is the village of Argentière, famed for its steep, difficult and largely unvisited runs. That it attracts more super-loose, hipless skiers than most places, and that on fine days, good skiers are prepared to put up with long queues, vouches for the attraction of its moguls and gullies. There is nothing for beginners here.

Chamonix's own skiing includes the long, often demanding descent served by the Brévent and Flégère lifts, and from the top of the Aiguille du Midi cable car, the famous 18-kilometer-long Vallée Blanche run through stunningly beautiful glacier scenery.

Crowding, not difficulty, is an off-putting consequence of the popularity of this excursion. Le Tour provides the only area locally that is suitable for beginners, and Les Houches counts long, wide trails through woods among its attractions.

For those who enjoy skiing that is more extensive than arduous, and prefer a decent lunch to a pocketful of nuts and raisins eaten while standing in a lift queue, Megève is the place to head for. Parking in the centre of this big old resort of wooden chalets can be a troublesome, and is avoidable by skiing from Demi-Lune.

Another attractive choice is Courmayeur, on the Italian side of the Mont Blanc Tunnel. People who knew the village before the tunnel brought juggernauts through its outskirts say it has been spoiled. Those who have never known it any other way enjoy its old houses and lanes just the same, and no one is complaining about the range and extent of its skiing. It is not ideal for absolute beginners but for everyone else there is plenty of fun.



Flying high, feeling free on the slopes of Chamonix, perfect for the adventurous, superloose and hipless skier

The sun often shines on one side of Mont Blanc when it is dull, even snowing on the other. Mountains are notorious for their cellular weather patterns and the best place to keep track of them is the guides' house, the Maison de la Montagne.

Here, in a building so old that its walls slope inwards as they rise, giving it the appearance of falling backwards as in a bad photograph, true men of

the mountains meet to relive old adventures and plan new ones. It is a place of crows feet and contour lines, and camaraderie.

For all our rescue helicopters and radios, that comradeship still matters on the mountains. Among the 96 associations listed in the Guide Cantonal is the Chamonix branch of the Fédération Nationale des Maîtres Chiens d'Avallanches.

From £492, on the basis of two people sharing a room and the car, Europcar (01-850 5050) offers Winter Superdrive rates, inclusive of ski rocks and snow tyres or chains from a number of locations including Geneva airport. Prices run from Swiss Francs 427 as week £161 with unlimited mileage.

Falcon (01-221 0068) offers seat-only charter flights to Geneva from £89 return.

## TRAVEL NOTES

The Hôtel Albert Premier can be booked through Bladon Lines's A La Carte service (01-785 2200) and costs £292 per person per week, half board, sharing a double room. It is a small, family-run hotel near the centre of Chamonix, traditional and with excellent cooking. With a Bladon Lines flight and a hire car for the week, it costs

# The sun also shines on history

J. Alan Cash

Val Hennessy finds a more satisfying life behind the packaged sea and sand of Spain

When King Alfonso XIII addressed the Lord Mayor of London at the Guildhall in 1904, he mistranslated the Spanish *Estoy constipado* (I have a cold) and, apologizing for his hoarse voice, informed the assembled dignitaries: "I am constipated." I gleaned this fact from a Spanish newspaper as I sat on the steps of a market with a gypsy snail-seller to my left and a basket of tortois to my right.

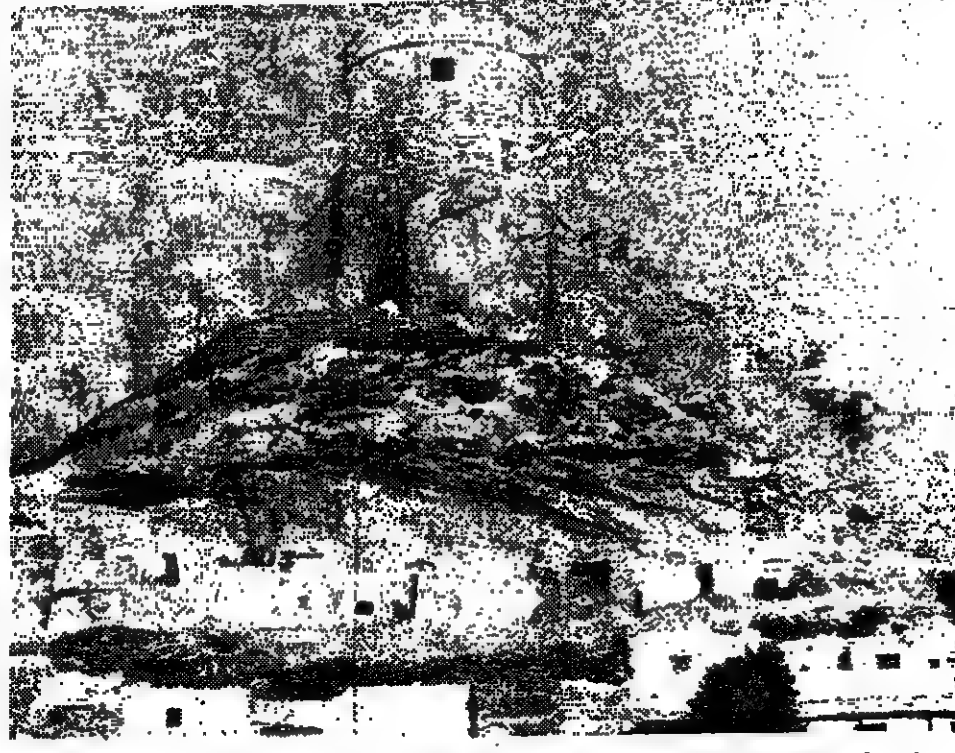
The sun streamed down like treacle, the air smelled of squid sizzling in garlic at the tapas bar opposite. Mingling with carnation-sellers, lemon-sellers and a one-legged beggar who banged a drum while his goat balanced motionless on a log, I entertained few home thoughts from abroad.

Indeed, I was wondering why people are so supercilious about inexpensive holidays. Why they sneer when we canny package-deal addicts use our half-board seaside accommodation simply as a place to sleep. We now hire cars, escape from basking Brits and bingo, and potter off independently after our buffet breakfasts to explore the real Spain.

Agua Dulce, a sprawling fishing town midway between the two terribly forbidding Costas — Blanca and del Sol — was my last-named beach spring.

The hotel, Satellites Park, offered excellent accommodation, good meals, a colossal swimming pool, attractive grounds planted with mimosa and palms, and only a five-minute stroll from the Mediterranean and a clean beach. I would be lying, however, if I did not mention the daily dawn chorus of cement-mixers and pneumatic drills. These symphonies of concrete construction are inescapable facts of Spanish Costa life.

But it has also been described, by Aldous Huxley, as having the sun for a lover (3,000 hours a year) and it does have a charming, modern square where paella can be savoured while you watch the locals promenade and the travelling gario-seller haggle.



Standing guard: Alcazaba fortress towers over homes carved into the rock at Almería

Almería, five miles away, is dominated by the biscuit-coloured Alcazaba, a hilltop Arab fortress overlooking labyrinthine rows of dazzling, box-like homes carved into the rock. These time-washed dwellings have their doorways outlined in turquoise, pink or ochre.

I spent much of my time roaming the alleyways of the old town, propping up the Lisboa Tapas bar (fried mussels, giant prawns and miniature eggs a speciality) near Almería's palm-lined main street. I did not meet anyone from Britain. I did, however, encounter a shoe-shiner who squatted perplexingly, brush poised, over my rope sandals, opened his tin of polish and kissed "hash?"

Almería's main street is closed to traffic on Sundays. Toy-stalls, balloon-sellers and roller-skating children throng the road. One of the most delightful sights of Spain is the Sunday evening saunter when elegantly-attired families, siblings dressed in matching clothes, stroll and chat.

A 23-mile drive from Agua Dulce, past orange, olive and vine terraces and up the volcanic hills, where acres of yucca plants and prickly pear create a Wild West

landscape, brings you to the Arabian-style village of Nijar in the foothills of the Alhamilla mountains.

Exploring the narrow, white-washed streets I came across several sheds where women work giant looms and weave wonderful striped blankets from dyed rags. In the Plaza de la Constitución a priest took the opportunity to practise his English in the

shade of a mimosa tree. We drank scalding coffee from the Union bar whose unremitting telly blared throughout the siesta.

Driving 25 miles in the opposite direction is Laujar where I bought a picnic of fresh olives, goats cheese, bread, easy-open tinned sardines and a bottle of wine, stoppered with half a carrot, all for £2.

In the evenings it was pleasant to return to Satellites Park, to the luxury bathroom, to a well-made bed, and to a substantial supper. It was pleasant, too, to order a "La Mumba" — half a tumbler of

brandy topped up with hot drinking chocolate — and sip it in the company of sun-worshippers with peeling noses who were stoking up feverishly for a night at the Bloody Mary Disco. They loved the hotel. They loved the pool. If they hadn't seen anything of Spain, well, it was only because they didn't want to waste the sun.

Too much of a good thing is wonderful they insisted, clutching their tins of Nivea. And even the view between my hotel balcony and the crystal Mediterranean did incorporate a vista of high-rise development, and Andalusian-style holiday apartments, and several expectant-looking construction cranes, it was all so burnished with baking sunlight as to appear magical to a tourist seeking sunshine and travel on a shoestring.

## Acres of yukka and prickly pears create a Wild West landscape

## TRAVEL NOTES

Two weeks halfboard at the Hotel Satellites Park, inclusive of flights and transfers, costs from £184 with Intasun (01-290 1900). Car hire arranged locally costs from £100 a week with unlimited mileage, arranged through local Intasun representative.

## OUT AND ABOUT

# Toys and dolls that are more than child's play

Sara Driver discovers a museum of fantasy and childhood delights

The Victoria and Albert Museum first discovered children during the Great War. With wartime restrictions in force, many London children who normally went to the country for the summer were left kicking their heels in the city. The V & A decided to organize special activities for their young visitors as numbers increased.

"The experiment has proved so successful," wrote the director, "that I hope to be able to develop it." In 1923 the Bethnal Green Museum, an offshoot of the V & A which housed collections on food, animal products and 19th-century decorative arts, was chosen to hold the V & A's first proper children's exhibition.

Fifty years later in 1974, when Sir Roy Strong became director of the V & A, he gave the East London museum a new purpose and identity. It became the Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood.

"The toy," wrote the poet Basil Bunting, "is the child's first initiation in art." Refurbished and redesigned, the Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood now houses one of the largest toy collections in the world. There are about 4,000 toys on display from the prize exhibit — an exquisitely furnished 17th-century Nuremberg doll's house — through to contemporary space toys.

Today the museum is one vast, airy room with tiers of galleries round the perimeter. On the lower level are the doll's houses, a brightly painted gift shop and the exhibition area. The middle gallery houses the main collection, which includes about 1,400 dolls, with one group of 39 collected by successive generations of the same family over 150 years. There is a rare 18th-century Italian marionette theatre, a Punch and Judy booth, board games, and collections of model soldiers housed in castle-like display cabinets.

On the top gallery are the children's clothes and among them two 18th-century outfits made of silk, woven in nearby Spitalfields. On the remainder of the floor are artefacts from babyhood, including lethal-looking feeding bottles and ancient perambulators. There are still the remnants of the old collection on decorative arts which will be relocated as the museum enters its final



Adoring eyes: Helen Brown comes face to face with some of her playtime contemporaries

stage of redevelopment over the next 10 years.

At present the museum has no cafeteria and lacks a play area where children can touch and operate toys, but these needs should be catered for in the future. Educational visits have long been a feature, open workshops are held for children on Saturday mornings and special events are organized during school holidays.

On December 1, the museum's Spirit of Christmas — Christmas Revue exhibition will open to give children a glimpse into the joys of past Christmas seasons.

Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath Road, London E2 (01-980 2415). Open Mon-Thurs, Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun 2.30-6pm. Closed Fri. Free.

## TOYS GALORE

The London Toy and Model Museum, 23 Craven Hill, London W2 (01-262 7905).

Museum of London, London Wall EC2 (01-500 5659). Exhibition of 200 dolls from the 18th century onwards. From Tues.

Museum of Childhood, Judges' Lodgings, Church Street, Lancaster (0524 32808).

Museum of Childhood, 42 High Street, Edinburgh (031 225 2424).

Burns Toy Museum, York Street, Bath (0225 61819).

Museum of Childhood, Sudbury Hall, Sudbury, Derbyshire (020378 305).

Dewsbury Museum of Childhood, Crown Nest Park, Heckmondwike Road, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire (0924 466171).

The Toy Museum, 18a North Parade, Macclesfield, Cheshire (0629 56360).

The Precinct Toy Collection, 38 Harnet Street, Sandwich, Kent (0843 692150).

National Toy Museum, Rottingdean Grange, Rottingdean, East Sussex (0273 31004).

Arundel Toy and Military Museum, 23 High Street, Arundel, West Sussex (0903 882908).

Warwick Doll Museum, Oken's House, Castle Street, Warwick (0926 495546).

The Coventry Toy Museum, Whitefriars Gate, Much Park Street, Coventry (0203 275600).

late-cropping apples and pears plus a small exhibition of botanical paintings. RHS experts on hand.

Royal Horticultural Society Halls, Graycoat Street and Vincent Square, London SW1 (01-834 4333). Nov 25, 11am-7pm. Nov 26, 10am-5pm. Admission £1.70 Tues, £1 Wed.

BLUE PETER POSTER COMPETITION EXHIBITION: More than 2,000 of the 33,000 entries to the competition are on display in three age-group categories. The theme was "Giants of Land and Sea".

Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (01-589 6323). Until Jan 18, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm. Free.

CHINESE FESTIVAL OF KITES: Fascinating display of decorated kites made since the Cultural Revolution (when most of the country's antique kites

were destroyed) by centuries-old techniques. Demonstrations of these traditional methods every Saturday and Sunday during the exhibition, 2-5pm.

Manchester City Art Gallery, Mosley Street, Manchester (061 236 9422). Opens today, Nov 20, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm. Free.

TECHNIQUEST: Exciting exhibition of some 50 interactive exhibits — puzzles, mirrors, magnets, tricks with light — all geared to help the visitor to comprehend scientific truths.

Techniquest, St John Street, Cardiff (0222 355295). Today-Dec 23, Mon 1-5pm, Tues-Sat 10am-6pm. Admission: Mon free, Tues, Wed, Thurs pm, accompanied child free, otherwise adult £1, child under 14: 50p.

Judy Froshaug

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## OUTINGS

**POETS FOR AFRICA:** Literary contribution to the Band Aid appeal organized by the Poetry Society and sponsored by a variety of well-known personalities including Spike Milligan, Lord Longford, Melvyn Bragg, Paul Eddington and Sean O'Faolain. Many of our best contemporary poets, among them Alan Brownjohn, Wendy Cope, P. J. Kavanagh and Brian Patten, will be reading.

Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, London W6 (01-748 3354). Tonight, 8.30pm. Tickets £5.

**RICHMOND: TIMES PAST:** An exhibition about the local history of Richmond from the Stone Age to the present with photographs, artefacts, museum collections and "recreations", such as a Stone Age meal. Particularly

interesting are the exhibits describing the evolution of a number of sporting clubs and the changes in Richmond's architecture over the centuries. Orleans House Gallery, Riverside, Twickenham (01-892 0221). Until Dec 14, Tues-Sat 1-4.30pm, Sun 2-4.30pm. Free.

**EDINBURGH ANNUAL WINTER ANTIQUES FAIR:** Top quality fair, now in its 10th year, with specialist dealers from Scotland, Wales and England present. Free identification service for visitors bringing their own antiques.

Roxburgh Hotel, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh (031 225 3921). Today 11am-8pm, tomorrow 11am-5pm. Adult £1, children 50p.

**NOVEMBER FLOWER SHOW:** Timely displays of evergreen shrubs and trees, chrysanthemums, orchids and

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*Philippe de Godech*







## SHOPPING



Black lace-up brogue by Church & Company, £27.95, sizes 5 to 14, at A Jones & Sons, New Road Street, W1

Black patent lace-up by Johnny Moke, £55, sizes 4 to 11, at Johnny Moke, 396 King's Road, SW10

Brown tassel loafers £59.95, sizes 6 to 12, summer selection at Bally, 116 New Road Street, W1, and branches

Black suede evening pump by Manolo Blahnik, £160, sizes 7 to 10½, at Manolo Blahnik, 49 Old Church Street, SW3

Black leather loafer by Church & Company, £27.95, sizes 5 to 14, at A Jones & Sons, New Road Street, W1

## Fairer deal for charity

## NEWSLINES

More than 1,000 million Christmas cards are sold each year, of which roughly a quarter are charity cards. But, according to the Charities Advisory Trust, as little as 8 to 12 per cent of the purchase price will reach the charity from cards sold in some High Street shops since retailers require hefty discounts on cards bought in bulk.

To make sure that the highest possible proportion of the packet price about 35 to 55 per cent following deduction of design fees and printing costs — reaches your chosen charity, the trust advises that cards are purchased from specialist charity Christmas card shops.

Interior design trouble-shooters Michael Peters have re-ramped 'Disorder' Bond Street store which opened earlier this month following a major fire last year. With seven mezzanine levels, the store stocks a number of special items not on sale at other branches, including a selection of Leica cameras, top model hi-fi units and CD systems and a wider choice of the new flat screen televisions.

Extend personalized greetings to their fullest with a Gintagram. This 15½-inch paper banner with huge red letters gives your own not-to-be-ignored message complete with hearts and flowers, birthday cakes or Christmas trees — whatever fits the occasion. A Gintagram costs £5.95 plus 55p postage and packing and orders are despatched within seven days by first class mail. Rush orders for despatch within 24 hours incur £1.50 surcharge. Tel: Malvern (06845) 62661.

Nicole Swengley

## Walk tall — in style

Tania Robins gives a step-by-step guide to choosing fine footwear and specialist shoe shops, places apparently where some men fear to tread

If, as the old saying goes, you can tell a man by his shoes, why is it that so many men take such little care over the choice of theirs?

Partly, no doubt, it is memories of summer holidays interrupted by the tedium of shopping for school shoes and being pumpered by the man with the foot-measure. Many men now retreat in terror at the thought of entering shoe shops, preferring instead to pick a pair off the shelf when buying a shirt and tie at the menswear shop or chainstore. His philosophy: if the shoe fits, wear it. And this style will be the one demanded until disintegration strikes again.

But there are just four simple lessons to be mastered before you are a proficient shoe buyer. Armed with these you should never again balk at entering a shoe shop.

Style: There are three main divisions to the masculine foot wardrobe: the walking shoe; the casual shoe; and the evening shoe. The walking shoe is a sturdy lace-up. Perhaps the most common is the brogue or oxford. The casual shoe is characteristically the slip-on loafer in all its forms. And the evening shoe is either a patent leather pump or a slim-soled patent lace-up.

Construction: The better quality men's shoes are made of leather — crocodile (Lobbs do a nice pair for £1,700), ostrich, lizard, suede, do-skin, elephant, kid — but most likely you'll be buying calf. Despite widespread use of synthetics, leather is still the best material for shoes because it is porous and allows water to escape from the feet

(as the average pair of feet sweat half a pint of water a day, this is no bad thing). Leather's other chief advantage is its malleability. It moulds to the shape of the foot quickly and effectively, giving much greater comfort.

Heels and soles can be made of leather or synthetics. Synthetics are particularly effective at excluding water and even the best shoe-makers may resort to them when making, for example, a sturdy country shoe. Leather heels, too, will often have a rubber inset to reduce wear on hard city pavements.

There are two principle methods of construction used in making good quality shoes: the welted method and the cemented method. The welted method, traditionally employed on evening shoes and lighter weight casual shoes (both of which receive less wear), is, as its name suggests, where the upper is directly attached to the sole with glue. Cemented shoes tend to be less expensive, but cannot always be repaired. The particular advantage of the welted shoe is its durability and reparability.

Fit: The foot is one of the most irregular shapes imaginable. In childhood this was recognized and catered for by shoe manufacturers who offered a number of different fittings as well as different sizes. In America, adult shoes are still made in different widths and shoes are properly fitted in the shop. But here, even in the smartest shops,

these services are rarely available. So, if you want well-fitted shoes you have two alternatives: you can go bespoke or off-the-peg. Britain is famous for its high quality, handmade, made-to-measure shoes. There are half a dozen shops in London which still perform this craft. John Lobb Ltd is the most famous. But this service does not

come cheap or fast. Shoes start at £624 plus VAT, and the queue for your first pair is around a year.

Those less well off or in a hurry will have to buy off-the-peg, so it is important to know your feet. It is unlikely that both your feet will be the same size. Fit for the larger foot (usually the left) and, if you're unsure of the size, try on a larger



Black suede evening pump by Manolo Blahnik, £160, sizes 7 to 10½, at Manolo Blahnik, 49 Old Church Street, SW3

## FOOTNOTES

Forever lasts: Trickers, 67 Jermyn Street, London SW1, bespoke shoes from £230. John Lobb Ltd, 9 St James Street, London SW1, bespoke shoes from £624 + VAT. James Taylor & Son, 4 Paddington Street, London W1, bespoke shoes from £395 + VAT.

Sole survivors: Churches, available from A. Jones & Sons, 112 Jermyn Street, SW1; 163 New Bond Street, W1; 143 Brompton Road, SW3; walking shoes from £95. Alan Acland, 5 Cork Street, W1; 73 Knightsbridge, SW1, walking shoes from £89.50. Bally, 116 New Bond Street, W1, and branches, walking shoes from £48.95.

size first. Always try on both shoes. The aim is a snug fit, not a tight one. Check that the back of the shoe is the correct height. If it is too high you'll get blisters. If it is too low you'll walk out of it.

Maintenance: The life of a pair of shoes depends on the type, the wear and the care. Welted shoes last much longer than cemented shoes (Lobbs report common repairs on their welted shoes from 10 to 20 years on). Shoes will last longer if you have more of them.

When wet, allow leather shoes to dry out away from direct heat. When you're not using them, shoes should be stored on shoe trees. These maintain the shape and facilitate cleaning, which should be done regularly with a good quality wax polish to keep out the wet.

In soles: Manolo Blahnik, 49 Old Church Street, SW3, shoes from £160. Johnny Moke, 396 King's Road, SW10, walking shoes from £232. John Moore, House of Beauty and Culture, 34-36 Stamford Road, shoes from £80.

High street heels: Hobbs, 47 South Molton Street, W1, and branches, leather walking shoes from £59.99. British Shoe Company (subsidiaries include Lilley & Skinner, Dicks, Saxons, Freeman, Harry Wills, Roland Carver, Curless, Truform, Marfield), leather walking shoes from £21.99. Next for Men, 62 South Molton Street, W1, and branches, leather walking shoes from £27.99. Berta, South Molton Street, W1, and branches, leather walking shoes from £39.99.

## THE TIMES COOK

## Garlic for a soufflé surprise

I once cooked chicken with 40 cloves of garlic for an excessively conservative Welshman who licked his lips, said chicken had not tasted like that since he was a boy, and held out his plate for more. This traditional dish makes the point that plump, fresh garlic cooked slowly to mush loses all its alarming pungency. The flavour left behind is rich and complicated and not necessarily immediately recognizable.

So, if a garlic soufflé has not passed your lips, don't scoff, make it. I had wanted to try the idea ever since reading Jane Grigson's introduction to the *Chez Panisse Menu Cookbook* by the Californian restaurateur Alice Waters. It appears in a menu for a Garlic Festival dinner, which may be taking understandable reaction to the blandness of much American food further than most would wish to go.



Clara Leachester

If it is runny, add more egg whites.

Pour the soufflé gently into the prepared gratin or individual gratin dishes. Sprinkle with the remaining Parmesan and then with the rest of the thyme.

Bake on the top shelf of a preheated hot oven (230°C/450°F, gas mark 9) for approximately 10 minutes. The soufflé allows the garlic to cook more quickly than in a conventional soufflé dish and provides more browned crust.

The soufflé in the small gratin dishes will cook in about the same time. The top and sides of the soufflé should be well-browned, the inside warm and creamy.

Serve glazed onions as a vegetable with any plainly grilled or roasted meat or poultry.

GLAZED ONIONS  
Serves six

800g (2½ lb) small onions  
3 tablespoons olive oil  
120ml (4 fl oz) stock  
1 tablespoon honey  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Put the peeled onions in a shallow pan with the oil and stock, cover and cook them gently until they are tender. Uncover the pan, stir in the honey and a little seasoning, and cook on a medium heat until the liquid has evaporated to a syrupy glaze. Shake the pan to coat the onions on all sides. Serve them at once.

Shona Crawford Poole

## Christmas cake recipe

Last week's Christmas cake recipe contained an unintentional puzzle, with sultanas mentioned in the method but not the ingredients. The recipe works successfully with or without the half a pound of sultanas that went missing.

At this time of year the Thames Valley grows bleakly appealing. The mist effects are subtle. The dead leaves are shiny as rooks. The bare branches afford glimpses of vistas that are covered in the second seasons. You get to see grand houses, you get to see the shacks and railway carriages that were weekend homes and smallholdings. It's all much more exciting than in the summer. From the dining room of the Swan Hotel in Streatley you can stare at your reflection and the mist beyond it at night.

The grub in front of you will be inventive and gutsy: fish soup with chilli mayonnaise designed to take the top of your head off; a yoghurt and avocado soup reminiscent of a farmyard — an organic, caring farmyard of course. Meat comes in macho chunks, though the machismo is that of muscled male models rather than of the Buenos Aires knife boys.

Beef fillet, which should have been rare, came with shallot purée, bone marrow and a sauce which suggested Bovril — the meat just about stood up to it. Veal was less successful, quite vanquished by Madeira sauce. A soufflé tasted of nothing in particular but was saved by the stew of berries with it.

I had expected more of the cheese — it is supplied by Patrick Rance whose celebrated shop, the most publicized village store in Britain, is only a couple of hundred yards from the hotel. As it turned out only a hard goat's milk cheese called Round Oak was beyond reproach. I drank a half of an old-fashioned Cote Rotie — old-fashioned in that it was London bottled by Barry Bros.

Two will pay about £45 depending on what they drink and on what they tip the waiters, who have matey tendencies. By day there may still be river mist but your reflection will have been replaced by a stereotypical Thamescape

## EATING OUT

## Gutsy Thameside grub among the gravy boats



of weir, gaudy Oxford barge, weeping willow, copper beech and a motor cruiser called *Mi Amigo Nuevo*.

*Mi amigo nuevo* is how my five-year-old twin daughters consider the owner of Don

Pepe; and so would I, had he persistently told me of my pulchritude and given me lollies. This is a Galician bar and restaurant which is also the unofficial club of the (predominantly northern) Spanish community that lives around Edgware Road, Maida Hill, and Westbourne Park.

The place is bustling, noisy, congenial. And it's a good place to take children when the thought of kiddie-tiffin is more than you can countenance. Also the cooking is fine. The great Asturian bean stew called *fabada* (which is prepared with *morcilla* (black pudding) and *jamon serrano* is worth the detour. And so is the tripe, which is prepared according to Madrilenian rather than Galician practice — it is fiery with pimiento and succulent with, again, *jamon serrano*.

Such things as the tortilla, the pork kebabs, the roasted peppers and the octopus stew to be recommended. Devotees of sticky liquors are well looked after; if you drink the excellent San Miguel beer and eat in the tapas bar you will pay about £25 for two adults and two children. In the restaurant, which has a notably good wine list, you'll pay about £35 for two adults with big thirsts.

## Jonathan Meades

Swan Hotel, Streatley, Berkshire (0491 873737). Open daily 12.30-2pm and 7.30-9.30pm.

Don Pepe, 99 Frampton Street, Edgware Road, London NW8 (01-262 3834). Open daily noon-2pm and 7-11pm.

## Al San Vicenzo

The Al San Vicenzo restaurant, 52 Upper Mulgrave Road, Chesham, Surrey (01-661 9763) is open from Monday to Saturday and not Tuesday to Sunday as we stated last week.

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1182, 1184, 1186, 1188, 1190, 1192, 1194, 1196, 1198, 1200, 1202, 1204, 1206, 1208, 1210, 1212, 1214, 1216, 1218, 1220, 1222, 1224, 1226, 1228, 1230, 1232, 1234, 1236, 1238, 1240, 1242, 1244, 1246, 1248, 1250, 1252, 1254, 1256, 1258, 1260, 1262, 1264, 1266, 1268, 1270, 1272, 1274, 1276, 1278, 1280, 1282, 1284, 1286, 1288, 1290, 1292, 1294, 1296, 1298, 1300, 1302, 1304, 1306, 1308, 1310, 1312, 1314, 1316, 1318, 1320, 1322, 1324, 1326, 1328, 1330, 1332, 1334, 1336, 1338, 1340, 1342, 1344, 1346, 1348, 1350, 1352, 1354, 1356, 1358, 1360, 1362, 1364, 1366, 1368, 1370, 1372, 1374, 1376, 1378, 1380, 1382, 1384, 1386, 1388, 1390, 1392, 1394, 1396, 1398, 1400, 1402, 1404, 1406, 1408, 1410, 1412, 1414, 1416, 1418, 1420, 1422, 1424, 1426, 1428, 1430, 1432, 1434, 1436, 1438, 1440, 1442, 1444, 1446, 1448, 1450, 1452, 1454, 1456, 1458, 1460, 1462, 1464, 1466, 1468, 1470, 1472, 1474, 1476, 1478, 1480, 1482, 1484, 1486, 1488, 1490, 1492, 1494, 1496, 1498, 1500, 1502, 1504, 1506, 1508, 1510, 1512, 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1846, 1848, 1850, 1852, 1854, 1856, 1858, 1860, 1862, 1864, 1866, 1868, 1870, 1872, 1874, 1876, 1878, 1880, 1882, 1884, 1886, 1888, 18



## THE ARTS

## Self-portrait of the artist

In an advert for Alka-Seltzer, Salvador Dali urges the fizzy pill on us because "It is a work of art, truly one of a kind - like Dali". As Adam Low's ironic, intelligent portrait for *Arts* (BBC2) made clear, Dali's greatest creation is himself: solicitor's son, surrealist, confidence trickster with a moustache of devil's horns and a masterpiece of showmanship described by everyone, including himself, as "Dahlee".

## TELEVISION

Concentrating, therefore, on the man rather than his work, Low's film brought Dali to life as a Spanish Oscar Wilde. "Absolutely nothing" was his majestic assessment of what he had contributed to Art, his whiskers quivering above some permanently invisible smelling salts. (Without these waxed appurtenances, he would resemble a rather affable waiter.) "I'm a very bad painter... I'm too intelligent to be a good painter." Which is why, bristling with satanic mischief, he must have been "so happy" (the words of his epicene business manager) to discover an international racket of Dali forgeries. It compounded a belief, perhaps only hinted at, that his entire output was fake and that the world would do a damn sight better to fix its attention instead on that unforgivable force, "the divine Dahlee".

Part of Dali's mischiefmaking, wittily emphasised in the film, seemed to consist in the sometimes grotesque people he encouraged to buy, interpret and manage his work. One sequence showed the American couple who besides owning

a quarter of his output had published a Primer to explain his English accent. Another, from the archive, showed some American hostess exhibiting one of the maestro's necklaces. "Dahlee says everything comes from the sky," she explained of the design without seeming to have a clue what she meant.

Since Dali now refuses to emerge from his Spanish home, Low had to rely on a number of archive interviews (among them a simply hilarious discussion with Malcolm Muggeridge). This did make it difficult for the producer to put his own signature on a portrait which was good where it might have been exceptional. While gradually coming to understand the art through the man (the illustration of Dali's obsessions with Millais, soft cheese, Vermeer and Gala, his wife, being particularly well done), one was left frustrated on several occasions by both the film's pace and its exposition. We were left with the impression of a talented crank - one who, in his last recorded uttering, pronounced that "no names must never die", but who, when asked for the secret of immortality, once replied that it lay "definitely in the hibernation of molluscs".

Narrated by John Pitsman - who more and more sounds like a tapir with sinus trouble - *Just Another Day* (BBC2) was a quirky, affectionate look at Hesther and some of its 45,000 staff. While the life depicted was unrepresentative, imaginatively so, of an often infuriating airport, it included some memorable portraits - notably of two plane spotters.

Nicholas Shakespeare

He looks like a handsome turkey with his red hair and a beard that changes from black to his hollow cheeks to white on his pointed chin. He has thick plough lines on his forehead and steady, ringed eyes, the green of a parched savannah. He has been consistently described as Ireland's finest actor, yet once he was Terry Wogan's cameraman. His name is Tom Hickey and next Tuesday at the Almeida he stars in a piece of bold, experimental theatre which promises to leave no one unmoved.

*The Great Hunger*, which has taken Dublin, Edinburgh and now Belfast by varying storms, is a conscious departure from Ireland's literary tradition. Adapted by Tom MacIntyre from Peter Kavanaugh's great poem, it depends for its energy on incantation and ritual, on gesture and dance rather than on verbal wordplay. In Hickey's portrayal of Maguire - a rural labourer, starved by religion, tradition and poverty of any sensual satisfaction - this energy has left some audiences, in Hickey's words, "confused, resentful and totally discombobulated".

Midway through one performance, a man walked up to the stage to protest against "this travesty of religion". His walkout was not an isolated incident. While pleased at the play's power to disturb, Hickey laments what he sees as a drift back to the period of the drama's setting (the mid Forties) and a time when big, burly detectives could be seen lining the wall at Dublin's Pike Theatre, taking notes about such gestures as a condom falling to the floor. "With the referendum on divorce" - he himself is separated - "it seemed we might be in the Eighties at last. It was looking good until someone raised the matter of who would then own the land. After the wonderful Sixties and the darkening Seventies, we now want the rule book again." This desire can also be seen in the theatre world. Until the play's extraordinary acclaim at Edinburgh this year "we were regarded as a bunch of lunatics in the basement". (Hickey, MacIntyre, and the producer Patrick Mason collaborate in the Peacock Theatre underneath Dublin's Abbey Theatre.)

On the other side of this coin,

## Irish incantations

Tom Hickey, reckoned to be Ireland's best actor nowadays, arrives in London this weekend to star in *The Great Hunger*, a huge success at this year's Edinburgh Festival. Interview by Nicholas Shakespeare



Boy from the bog: Tom Hickey says his performance has left some audiences "totally discombobulated"

Hickey recalls a performance at Tyrone Guthrie's house in Monaghan before the local community. "It was the nearest thing to a Mass. It was not drama but ritual, a full conversation between the players and the house. One girl who did have difficulty with a plough sequence - in which we use sheets - turned to the old man next to her. What's all that about, she asked. Oh, it's seagulls, said the old one, and there are crows - look at them."

When Hickey first started rehearsals for *The Great Hunger* in 1983, his own childhood returned in

forgotten sequences. "When Maguire sits on the gate and the gate becomes a horse, I suddenly imagined myself back in Kildare, that racey part of Ireland where I used to make stirrups out of twine, climb astride a wall and pretend to gallop."

Brought up "in the bog of Ireland", 20 miles from Dublin, Hickey's first knowledge of the theatre was acting as a Mass servant. "We had a priest obsessed with how many times the bell was rung, how to hold the chalice. From him I learnt that the space and time given to any particular gesture gives

it its value. Now every time they want a late starter who began his working life as a lab assistant. In 1961, when RTE opened, he became a lighting technician, then someone who moved cables out of the way and then a cameraman in the studio

where Terry Wogan read the news. He has a photo - "my mother treasures it" - of the two of them wearing identical sweaters. "The last words we spoke were in the RTE bar. He told me of an offer of work in England. He said 'I may be going over.' Hickey rolls his pale green eyes and laughs as if to say "and how".

He, meanwhile, had profited from evening drama classes and become an institution of his own - as Benji in *The Riordans*, RTE's long-running series about a farming family. (Such an institution, in fact, that he seems to have spent most weekends opening fens on tractors he did not know how to drive.) Crucial to his development was the tuition of Deirdre O'Connell at the Stanislavski Studio, and later at the Focus Theatre, under whose un-inhibiting influence Hickey became susceptible to Russian and European traditions. After joining the Abbey in 1981 he met Tom MacIntyre, the person who after O'Connell has most affected his acting. He it was who approached Hickey with the part of Maguire.

Once again he tries to describe the play. "It addresses spiritual deprivation, violation, the overpowering relationship of the mother with the Irish male, the timidity of the Irish male - of any male - with women, and the complicated influence of the church among all these strands." He stresses that it is only one of three plays in which he, MacIntyre and Mason have collaborated; a cycle which has given rise to the expression *The Hurt Mind*. Implicit in this sobriquet is the suggestion of a new movement. "The Hurt Mind is our national, self-induced paranoia," explains Hickey in tones of mounting lyricism. "The tension between what is beautifully available to us through our imagination, our dreams, our appetite for mystery - and what is then taken down by savagery." He raises his scarecrow's head to the ceiling. "The danger is the more you talk about it the more you take away from it." Staring upwards, the furrows deepen on his forehead. "That's all rubbish what I've said. We just aim to disturb and entertain through magic spells and incantations." Our tel had better watch out.

## An uncharted talent

## ROCK

Richard Thompson  
Hammersmith  
Palais

As Richard Thompson's latest album *Dangerous Adventures* fades into obscurity after a stunning one-week stand at number 92, the question of why such a gifted performer should not be more commercially successful goes begging yet again.

It is true that these days he looks more than ever like that seedy chap in *George and Mildred*, but lack of a glamorous rock star image has not deprived Mark Knopfler of wall-to-wall platinum albums, and Thompson is a singer, songwriter and guitarist at least as gifted as the leader of Dire Straits.

The answer became apparent during a version of "Great Ball of Fire", the final encore of an expansive, two-and-a-half-hour set. Thompson had clearly been enjoying himself, bringing on old friends like

Danny Thompson to play upright bass on the Nellie Litcher barrelhouse blues "He's a Real Gone Guy", and generously giving the floor to Pete Thomas, one of two guesting saxophonists, for a wittily camp rendition of Cab Calloway's "Minnie the Moocher".

But such relaxed bonhomie, the "good time" factor that counts for so much in wooing a wider audience, is simply not his forte, and the stiff, ungainly version of Jerry Lee

Lewis's barnstormer, complete with John Kirkpatrick's inappropriate accordion solo, was a patently unsuitable vehicle for Thompson's talent.

In contrast, his genius was radiant during the long extemporized conclusion of "Calvary Cross", his fingers clamping down with a rapid vibrato that released coiled clusters of notes like snapping barbed wire. The shrill chanting that overlaid the folk-funk hybrid "A Bone Through Her Nose" with its mordant unforgiving humor, and the roller coaster motion of the despairing "Wall of Death", were no less compelling.

In such bleak intensity lies the cruel beauty of Thompson's music; it is an equation that has always yielded long odds on chart success.

David Sinclair

## CONCERTS

BBCSO/Wand  
Festival Hall

The trouble with Günter Wand is the profound dissatisfaction he makes one feel with the work of lesser conducting mortals who have neither seen so much nor lived so long. And if such comparison is odious, then I can only say that it is hard, very hard, to settle for less than the clarity and depth of understanding with which Beethoven and Bruckner were recreated last night.

The Beethoven was his first and, in many ways, his most difficult symphony. To bring incisiveness out of its compression without a hint of aggression; to blot out the memory of later Beethoven, and listen, as it were, over Haydn's shoulder; to know how slowly to pace an *allegro molto* to release its vivace: these are the questions which Wand is able to answer.

Bruckner's Ninth, last and unfinished, symphony, can only, perhaps, be adequately performed by a conductor with Wand's confidence and imagination in relating the part to the whole.

One could write about the mobile balance of string parts in the first movement's first slow melodic arc; one could note the unusually rich variegation of brass playing. But what really counts is Wand's ability to merge the motivation of dynamics, tempo and orchestration into one long-sighted purpose. The fact that the usual audience ripple effect at points of release seemed, for once, totally absent was a telling comment on Wand's achievement.

Climaxes were never treated as mere marker points; time suspended - and Wand frequently chose to hold it at a long, slow distance - was never time lost. Instead there was a recreative tension which shifted only in kind, not in degree, and which made the symphony's last winding down seem the only possible outcome of its opening.

Hilary Finch

## Sterile laugh at infertility

## THEATRE

Ashes  
Bush

Infertility is no laughing matter, and neither is David Rudkin's quasi-comedy, receiving here its first revival in London for 10 years. Its theme will no doubt appeal to the women of the Pill generation who spent the first decade of adulthood desperately avoiding, or terminating, pregnancy, and the second decade striving with equal desperation to reproduce.

Colin and Anne are a pair of teachers approaching middle age whose efforts to conceive have lasted a long two years. Most of the first half consists of short scenes which recapitulate their experience of the medical resources available to such couples.

Colin is obliged to masturbate into a diminutive glass tube and Anne has to supply their doctor with post-coital swabs for the purpose of determining her acidity. Virtually every aspect of their lives - diet, clothing, personal hygiene, sexual intercourse - is regulated, and inevitably they feel increasingly taken over by prescription and proscript.

One appreciates Mr Rudkin's satire of presumptuous experts, and one acknowledges also the truth of his observation, but these research-happy passages pander to the audience's desire to view procreation in human rather than scientific terms, and the result is, in a word, sterile.

More damagingly, there is no attempt to delineate the chief protagonists as individuals; we never really know why they want a baby in the first place. When Anne does finally conceive - an event signalled by the triumphant descent from the ceiling of a urine sample in a brass dish -



Raising the temperature: Sheila Gish in *Ashes*

the piece jerks into a sober gear, and the ensuing, ultimately disastrous pregnancy might just as well concern two entirely different people.

Colin encapsulates a pair of mutually antagonistic impulses: on the one hand, a homosexual tendency, which he initially fancies might contribute towards his low fertility potential; on the other, a lingering desire for acceptance by his family in Northern Ireland.

At this remove, it certainly looks as though Mr Rudkin was getting two topical interests for the price of one, and Colin's later monologues on the Troubles, in which he expresses his sense of severance from his inheritance and his succession, flounder for a point of attachment to the main thrust of the play.

Rob Walker's crisp production is a model of intelligent pacing and economical staging, and the fine performances of Sheila Gish and Denis Lawson will probably pack this horribly cramped theatre until the end of the run. Sally Watts and Richard Kane mop up the subsidiary roles with distinction, and Peter Avery's design manages to be both clinical and inventive.

Martin Cropper

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# THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

## Right song and dance

Discommod notes are expected at a stormy AGM of the English Folk Song and Dance Society today. Battle lines have been drawn following a proposal by the national executive to sell or redevelop its headquarters, Cecil Sharp House, to pay off debts of around £50,000. Director Jim Lloyd tells me the 1930s building is obsolete, costly to run and no longer fulfils the society's needs.

Not so, argues a growing opposition group anxious to preserve the building, which houses the Vaughan Williams Library. Since being formed last month, it has recruited 800 members and raised almost £8,000 for a last-ditch rescue bid. Lloyd says the NEC may be forced to resign if its motion is defeated.

## Stop at red

The self-styled Smallest Theatre in the World is the latest victim of the Chernobyl disaster. The three-member group, presently rehearsing for *Cinderella* at the Albany Empire, south-east London, operates from a 650cc Russian motor cycle. Unfortunately, the machine has ground to a halt due to lack of spare parts, and the factory that makes them appears to have closed. Guess where it was?

## The final bite

Time is running out for the National Portrait Gallery's bid to acquire the adjacent former dental hospital in Leicester Square to display its growing collection of 20th-century paintings and photographs. Chairman Lord Kenyon, supported by Royal Academy president Roger de Grey, has been lobbying Government "at the highest level" to provide the necessary funds, but without success. The deadline for the transfer



de Grey and Kenyon

of the six-storey building is next Friday, after which it will go on the market.

I am told private arts sponsors may be found to transform the property, but are unwilling to fund its transfer from one Government department to another. The NPG's space shortage is said to be acute, seriously compromising its commissioning of new works of contemporary art. If the deal falls through, stand by for a gnashing of teeth...

There is not much Christmas spirit among the ITV unions. Harry Secombe spent three months preparing to broadcast a seasonal message of hope from the troubled Holy Land, in a special Christmas edition of *Highway*. But the trip was called off by a union manning dispute. Royal David's city this year will be London.

## Smalls talk

Queen Victoria would probably not be amused by an exhibition of holography planned by the V & A in January. Entitled *The Body in Question: Knickers and Stockings*, it features three-dimensional projections of ladies' underwear... see-through, of course.

Gavin Bell

Jeremy Flint

## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1113

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, November 27, 1986. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, November 29, 1986.

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Shampoo packet (6)	1 Hit with force (4)
4 Shrewd (6)	2 Black diamond (9)
7 Race programme (4)	3 Durable (5)
8 Violent change (8)	4 Pallid (5)
9 Outing archipelago	5 Characteristic feature
author (12)	
15 Hindu natural law	6 Synophant (5)
(6)	10 Animated corpse (5)
16 High ground (6)	11 Push forward (5)
17 Dressing mirror (7,5)	12 Scentic (9)
23 Choke (8)	13 Branch junction (4)
24 Duty register (4)	14 Worshipped object
25 Reword (6)	(4)
26 Wretchedness (6)	15 Yellow orange (5)
	19 Swedish money unit
	(5)
	20 Nick (5)
	21 Small beam (5)
	22 Risque (4)

**SOLUTION TO NO 1112**  
 ACROSS: 1 Herald 4 Haste 7 Muff 8 Vermouth 9 Outrunk 11 Diner 12 Knickerbocker 15 Cliche 16 Speed up 20 Resonant 21 Dead 22 Target 23 Downy  
 DOWN: 1 Hammock 2 Refit 3 Divan 4 Hire 5 Spunk 6 Ether 10 Ankle 11 Drone 13 Incur 14 Rapidly 15 Carat 17 Pitch 18 Dread 19 Gait

The winners of prize concise No 1107 are Mrs B.E. Willis, Columbus Ravine, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, and J.A. Gammann, Anselm Avenue, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

**SOLUTION TO NO 1107 (last Saturday's prize concise)**  
 ACROSS: 1 Suffragette 9 Harfoot 10 Glair 11 Ore 12 Kith 17 Isobar 18 Nose 20 Pair 21 Litter 22 Expo 23 Ways 25 Cos 28 Exult 29 Tapico 30 Baden Powell  
 DOWN: 2 Unlil 3 Flog 4 Alto 5 Edge 6 Tarsina 7 Chemin de fer 8 Arthur's Seat 12 Roadie 14 Tie 15 Voodoo 19 Naphtha 20 Pew 24 Alot 25 Cine 26 Stop 27 Spew

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

## REVIEW

# The old bull and Bush



Perfect packaging: Kate Bush releases a collection of singles, from debut to current hit

## ROCK RECORDS

Kate Bush *The Whole Story* (EMI KBTY 1A)  
 Madness *Utter Madness* (Zarjaz JZLP 2)  
 Various Artists *Conspiracy of Hope* (Mercury MERR 93)  
 Supertramp *The Autobiography of Supertramp* (A&M Tramp 1)  
 Various Artists *Hip Hop Electro 15* (Street Sounds ELST 15)

Christmas is coming and the charts are already stuffed full of compilations, confirming a familiar pattern of music-business marketing strategy. Of last week's top 10 albums, no fewer than five were "Greatest Hits" or collections of previous releases.

Like the rest of us, record companies and rock stars are not averse to earning money for little or no work, but this endearing legacy of re-packaged recordings highlights a depressing long-term trend towards ossification. Currently *Queen Greatest Hits* is still in the top 50 after 3 1/2 years.

But on a more prosaic level, compilations offer good value for money (all the "best" songs) and, if released at the right moment, may draw the awkwardly-shaped baggage of a lengthy pop career into a tidy package.

Thus it is with Kate Bush, whose album *The Whole Story* neatly encapsulates her 12 best single releases, including the current hit "Experiment IV".

When "Withering Heights" soared with such ease to No 1 in the spring of 1978, many observers either imagined or hoped that the success of the peering 19-year-old girl with the catervansing vocal style and preposterous dance routines would be a short-lived novelty. But despite some of her more off-

putting mannerisms — the babyish gurgling in "Army Dreamers" and the strident screeching in "Sat in Your Lap" — she has developed as a writer and performer of some depth. Despite the big production job, "Wuth" demonstrated a pleasing sense of irony while "Cloudusting" and "Running Up That Hill" revealed an increasingly sophisticated sense of rhythm, melody and narrative awareness.

Under Madness is the second instalment of hits by the nutty lads from North London, following 1982's *Complete Madness*, and what is the betting that even now some executive is looking ahead to an eventual double album

and numbers like "Wings of a Dove", "Uncle Sam" and the ineffable "Michael Caine" are proud mementoes of an extraordinary career.

With *The Autobiography of Supertramp* the going gets considerably tougher. The band, who had a handful of hits in the 1970s — "The Logical Song", "Dreams" and "Breakfast in America" — notable for the infamously wooden style of their pianist and Roger Hodgson's enunciated vocals, are still together. But raking over this old stuff, together with minor embarrassments like "Bloody Well Right" and "It's Raining Again", puts the finger on a musical pulse that should have

tenorists: one minute he is nuzzling that warm tone up to your cheek, the next he is delivering a cuff around the ears with blues phrases of devastating directness. A romantic balladeer on "Misty" and a rigorous bebopper on "Yours Is My Heart Alone", he too deserves to be rescued from the disapproval created by a mid-career flirtation with the pop charts.

If Turrentine responds well to the good-humoured atmosphere of the session, Harris is absolutely galvanised. A tremendous display of pianistic fireworks reaches its climax in his solo introduction to "Battle Hymn of the Republic", where he uses rabid gospel phrases to build such exquisite tension that one quite expects Aretha Franklin to come waiting out of the wings. And when Harris, Brown and Roker mesh together on the bassist's "Up-town Sop", a blues whose 24-bar structure gives it a long-legged cowpoke lope, one can only be thankful that the three of them will be arriving at Ronnie Scott's Club on Monday for what is certain to be a memorable season.

Richard Williams

## JAZZ RECORDS

Gene Harris Trio Plus One (Concord Jazz CJ-308)

Critics paid scant attention to the American pianist Gene Harris in the States, when he was a member of a mildly successful trio called the Three Sounds. Clearly designed as the Blue Note label's response to Oscar Peterson and Ramsey Lewis, Harris's little ensemble looked out of place among the roster of giants on the company's books. Even when they joined the tenor saxophonist Stanley Turrentine for an album, *Blue Hour*, that 25 years later sounds like a classic, they were denied serious consideration.

Yet Harris, now in his middle fifties, may soon be in receipt of serious critical recognition for the first time in his career. A few months ago, he played a notable supporting role in a satisfying album by Benny Carter, now he reunites with Turrentine's tenor saxophone for *The Gene Harris Trio Plus One*, which is nothing sort of a revelation. Recorded live at a New York club, the album begins

## Fireworks display



Authority: Stanley Turrentine and his rhythm section mates, the great bassist Ray Brown and the drummer Mickey Roker, already looked into the irresistible strutting groove of the inappropriately titled "Gene's Lament". When Turrentine joins in, it is with the supreme authority that persuades me of his current pre-eminence among

## CLASSICAL RECORDS

Messiaen: *Piano works vol 2* HM/Unicorn-Kanchana DKP 9051 (black disc)  
 Reginald Bach *Variations* Haydn: *Sonata no 50* Serkin CBS IM 39562 (black disc)

Peter Hill's cycle of the Messiaen piano works looks set to become as much a classic of dedicated virtuosity as Jennifer Bate's display of the organ works for the same recording company. There is a similar zest in exactness, a keen edge that makes the rhythms much more incisive than mechanical, and that polishes up the colours with unerring precision.

In this respect Hill's partnership with his Bosendorfer is as complete as Bate's with the organ at Beaulieu: he uses its powerful, clack-speaking bass and its smooth or resilient upper textures as so many stops. And this is the essence of performing Messiaen, to conceive the piano as a storehouse of many separate treasures, not as a legato instrument.

The main works here are

## Zest for rhythm

*Camétydyad* and the *Quatre études de rythme*, both dating from 1949-50, when Messiaen's music was at its most abstract and speculative. As Hill shows, however, even the most elaborate constructions are vital sounding ideas. The performance of the four studies is particularly remarkable in showing how the pieces cohere, as two vigorous dances separated by a slowly rotating cloud of atomic fragments ("Mode de valeurs") and a new coalescence ("Nœuvres rythmiques").

Pianist and music are again well matched in Rudolf Serkin's recording of Reginald Bach's *Variations* and Fugue on a Theme by Bach. The piece is a monumental enterprise in identification with the past, conveying as much regret as reverence, as much loneliness as power. For Serkin's dispassionate command one can overlook the odd mistakes and vocal self-encouragements.

Paul Griffiths

## BRIDGE

At the bridge table, the old saying *nil desperandum* has a particular application for the defence. The emphasis changes only when playing Pairs, where overcards assume an exaggerated importance. The following from the British Bridge League Trials demonstrates that, at Teams, almost any far-fetched plan is worth trying, regardless of the concession of over-tricks. It is a lesson that even experienced players sometimes forget.

BBL Trials. Love all. Dealer North. East won with the Ace of diamonds, and returned a diamond. Looking at all four

AQ10853		KJ542	
K874	QK5	J2	8542
Q1082	W	E	A76
AQ8	S	J64	
KQ8		Q85	
K10853		S	
W	N	E	S
No	10	No	39
No	10	No	39
No	10	No	39

Opening lead 99 hands it is easy to see that a club switch would have been the killer. But in East-West's lead style the 95 could have been from a good five card suit.

Declarer took the diamond in hand with the 10Q and played the 95. West contributed an unhelpful 44, and East was permitted to win with the 4J.

Jumping to the conclusion that South initially held two spades, East turned his mind to saving overtricks. His heart switch proved more popular with South than West. Of course, had he switched to clubs, the contract would have gone two down, and even a pedestrian diamond continuation would have been good enough.

Perhaps West's failure to signal could be dubbed contributory negligence. But if East had visualized the spade position, he should have realized that South must hold the AKQx of hearts to explain his play of the spade suit.

See diagram

White needs to regroup this Knight for his Queen's side offensive, but now the Black Knight can seize an aggressive post at h4, permanently menacing White's King.

The Black forces gather around White's monarch. 21 h2xg3 22 h2xg3 23 h2xg3 24 h2xg3 25 h2xg3 26 h2xg3

Overlooking Black's threat. He must play 25 f4! followed by Q2 to safeguard his King.

Scattering the fortifications around White's King. 26 f4xg5 27 f4xg5 28 f4xg5 29 f4xg5 30 f4xg5 31 f4xg5

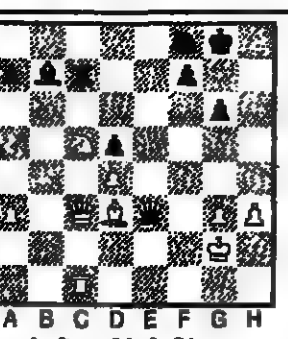
Now Black carries out the executioner's stroke. 31... f4xg5 32... f4xg5 33... f4xg5 34... f4xg5 35... f4xg5 36... f4xg5

White resigns

One of the worst defeats of Karpov's career.

Raymond Keene

## CHESS



White: Karpov. Black: Beliavsky. November 1986, Queen's Gambit Declined.

The Exchange Variation, considered so strong at world title level that Karpov and Kasparov both tried to avoid it with 3... Be7.

Perhaps more dangerous is 8 Nge2 followed by Qe2 and 0-0.

10 Qc2 11 Qc2 12 Qc2 13 Qc2 14 Qc2 15 Qc2 16 Qc2 17 Qc2 18 Qc2 19 Qc2 20 Qc2 21 Qc2 22 Qc2 23 Qc2 24 Qc2 25 Qc2 26 Qc2 27 Qc2 28 Qc2 29 Qc2 30 Qc2 31 Qc2 32 Qc2 33 Qc2 34 Qc2 35 Qc2 36 Qc2

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# Drawn by a life of ritual self-sacrifice

## PAPERBACKS

Against All Reason by Geoffrey Moorhouse (Spectre, 24.95)

The monastic life is never easy.

Every day one or other of the brethren was led into choir with a rope round his neck, was spat upon and walked over by the rest of the community as he lay prone in the sanctuary, and had to beg for his food until it was another person's turn the next day.

"We never allowed ourselves to think," recalled Father Ignatius of his community, whose principles were scarcely hedonistic.

Geoffrey Moorhouse thinks long and hard in *Against All Reason*, pondering the monastery's history and paradoxical appeal with a critical eye. And with scrupulous sympathy, he surveys the religious life in all its forms: monks, friars, nuns, brothers, sisters — those who live in communities and vow to live in poverty, chastity, and obedience (one and a quarter million people today).

A central question intrigues him. Exclusion or participation. Traditional monasticism meant a life remote from the world's business. Another kind follows Christ's injunction to mix with the lost sheep.

Charles de Foucauld was a pioneer of the latter sort, a Gallic Byron of the religious world in the late 19th century, who at 23 — "a dashing rake of a crack regiment" — was cashiered for keeping a mistress. From such improbable material emerged a man with a "craving for self-abnegation," who settled quietly in the Sahara Desert among the Tuaregs, wearing a white habit with a red heart sewn on. Foucauld built a mud chapel, taught them to knit and grow vegetables. Fifteen years on he was casually shot by a band of passing tribesmen.

He had no disciples, but his writings — describing his lifestyle of these in need — led to imitations such as the Little Brothers and Sisters of Jesus. (One such fraternity works locally today in Leeds, living in a small house with the attic as their chapel). Foucauld's initiative out in the wilderness helped spawn a counter-tradition to monastic insularity, that of participation.

*Against All Reason* is a scholarly, dense, yet readable book that covers a huge amount of ground. The author wears his learning lightly. He describes a fascinating variety of existences, mostly remote from the average conception of a fulfilled life.

Kathy O'Shaughnessy

# Crime and passion

## BOOKS IN BRIEF

A Taste for Death by P.D. James (Penguin, 25.95)

This is a typically English detective story. It is not exactly in the country house tradition, as it is set chiefly in Notting Hill and Harrow Road, but it hinges on wealth and class, and the detective is cool in the manner of Margery Allingham's Camion. As a thriller it is rather dull. We are never in doubt about the villain — the satisfaction comes from watching the detective find his way to a solution which is made pretty clear from the start.

The Hard Life by Flann O'Brien (Grafton, 24.95)

This is traditional Irish comedy. Flann O'Brien is inventive, his storytelling is swift and sure, making the eccentric seem natural and the commonplace hilarious. Mr Collop presides over his house in Dublin, drinking whiskey and discussing the state of the world, and the Catholic view of it, almost as if he were in charge of the Church's policy himself.

He revels in circular argument, in extravagant statement. His whole life, in fact, is a celebration of the glory of talk. The whole novel is like a sort of party — a boisterous one at which a lot of Irishmen meet fortuitously and rejoice in their wit.

The Black House by Paul Theroux (Penguin, 22.50)

Even Dorset village life may

have its witchcraft. As Dr Munday and his wife return from the life in Uganda they look forward to the cosy welcome of a rented cottage, set in gentle hills and gentle weather and near a nice English pub. It is not to be. The pub is not welcoming, the people are quarrelsome and the cottage is a bleak house full of indefinable terrors.

Paul Theroux conveys exactly the sense of subdued threat and insult that belongs to village life at its most insular. He builds up a story of real terror from the simplest elements of ordinary life, and describes the discord between man and wife that grows from unease into lingering horror.

In Another Country by John Bayley (Oxford, 25.95)

This is John Bayley's only novel so far. It was first published in 1955, and it explores the atmosphere of that extraordinary period after the Second World War, when people in Europe were struggling to resume normal peacetime lifestyles, and to sort out the post-war mess. The actual events of the story now seem rather remote, because that brief and fidgety period between war and peace set up tensions that are now no longer meaningful; but this hardly detracts from the novel's power. As an illustration of the ways in which people conduct their dealings and perceive their relationships with each other, this is a rare work of art.

Anne Barnes

# La Musique

Cool jazz with a cool drink in the Burlington Bar from the keyboard of James McKissic the celebrated American pianist.

Savour tea in the lounge to the delicate strains of the harp with resident harpist Katherine White.

Enjoy sweet violin and piano melodies with Eduardo Gallardo and Adolph Ziros over your gourmet meal in the Oak Room restaurant.

La musique at Le Meridien.

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The very soul of France in the very heart of London.

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 (Formerly The New Piccadilly Hotel) Tel: 734 8000.



## THE WEEK AHEAD



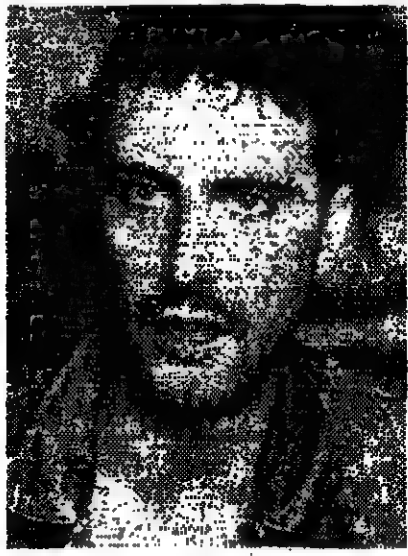
**ROCK**  
**MIXED BAG:** Elvis Costello, who declared recently, "I have no position in pop now, I resigned by post", has promised an extraordinary week of events. Tomorrow and Thursday, he appears with the Attractions; on Monday and Friday he performs unaccompanied, and on Tuesday and next Saturday the concert proceeds with the razzmatazz of a TV game show, complete with a spinning wheel to indicate randomly which of 40 possible songs he and the Attractions will perform. Royal Theatre, London WC2 (01-831 0680).



**TELEVISION**  
**BOOKMARK:** Michael Wood of the unbuttoned shirt, tight jeans and portentous voice sets off on another foray into the past in *Domesday*, a free-ranging tour of English history inspired by the 900th anniversary of the Domesday Book. He finds a "mirror of the changing life of the English people" in, of all places, Milton Keynes and draws from Lord Hugh Thomas the view that "Caliban will be remembered much longer than Churchill". He even manages to bring in the hippy convoy. BBC1, tomorrow, 5-6.50pm.



**FILMS**  
**REEL LIFE:** Erich von Stroheim undertook his boldest experiment in ruthless realism with *Greed*, a huge film of Frank Norris's novel, *McTeague*, released in 1924 cut down to 10 reels. The new print on parade at the London Film Festival may not restore the long-lost hours of footage but it does contain a few new seconds. As with all Thames Silents, there is live musical accompaniment composed by Carl Davis. Queen Elizabeth Hall (01-828 3191). Today, 7.30pm, and tomorrow, 3pm and 7.30pm.



**THEATRE**  
**SOFT SELL:** David Threlfall has been giving one of the television performances of the year as the odious Tory MP, Leslie Timsus, in John Mortimer's *Paradise Postponed*. Now he is back on the stage in *Selling the Stride*, a new comedy by the former Derbyshire cricketer, Peter Gibbs. Threlfall plays Malcolm, who wanders into a fancy goods warehouse and has an unexpected crash course in commerce and romance. Hampstead Theatre (01-722 9224), from Wednesday after previews.



**CONCERTS**  
**GOLDEN BOY:** Mikhail Pletnev, gold medalist and first prize winner of the 1978 Moscow International Tchaikovsky Competition at the age of 21, briefly visited England seven years ago. Now, at last, this brilliant pianist returns for a proper tour. He replaces Vladimir Ashkenazy in Rachmaninov's *Paganini Rhapsody* with the Philharmonia under Bernard Haitink at the Royal Festival Hall (01-928 3191) on Monday and gives a solo recital of Beethoven, Brahms, and Rachmaninov at the Wigmore Hall (01-835 2141) on Wednesday.



**OPERA**  
**MOZART MAGIC:** Karita Mattila, one of the up and coming generation of Scandinavian singers, takes the part of Pamina in Wednesday's revival of *The Magic Flute*. She made her first Covent Garden appearance in another Mozart opera, *Così fan tutte*, earlier in the year. More debuts follow in Europe and America in 1987. The remainder of the Flute cast is highly international so the promised surtitles look to be most appropriate on this occasion. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1086).

THEATRE  
OPENINGS

**BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS:** Michael Rudman's National Theatre production of the semi-autobiographical Neil Simon comedy. Transferred to the West End with Dorothy Tutin, and Susan Engel joining the cast. Aldwych (01-836 6404). First night Thurs.

**A MOUTHFUL OF BIRDS:** Caryl Churchill and David Lan's play, by Joint Stock and the Birmingham Repertory company, is a combination of dance and drama about seven characters "against the backdrop of Euripides' *The Bacchae*". Royal Court (01-730 1745). Preview Wed. First night Thurs.

**THE GREAT HUNGER:** Tom MacIntyre's adaptation of the epic poem by Patrick Kavanagh about rural life in Southern Ireland in 1842, in an Abbey Theatre production. Directed by Patrick Macdonald. Almeida (01-359 4404). Opens Tues.

**THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE:** Third Christmas season for Glyn Robbins' adaptation of the C. S. Lewis children's story. Westminster Theatre (01-834 0265). Opens Mon.

## OUT OF TOWN

**BRIDLEY:** The Prisoner of Zenda: Christopher Timothy, Judy Buxton, Donald Burton, Terence Longdon, directed by Peter Cox, in Warren Graves' adaptation of Anthony Hope's yarn. Churchill (01-460 0677). Until Dec 6.

**MANCHESTER:** Woundings: Mobile prize-winning play by Jeff Noon, with Reece Dinsdale as one of the British soldiers stationed on an island to which a group of young women are sent as conspersions. Royal Exchange (061 833 9633). Opens Thurs.

## SELECTED



● Vanessa Redgrave attracted a handful of bouquets when she opened at the Young Vic last month in *Ibsen's Ghosts*. Now that David Thacker's clean-cut production has transferred to the West End, a wider audience will be able to appreciate the strength and subtle authority of her performance as Mrs Alving. Wyndham's (01-836 3028).

**A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM:** It has taken 23 years to revive, but Frankie Howerd's lewd Pseudolus is riper than ever in Scudamore's best musical. Piccadilly (01-437 4506).

**WOMAN IN IRON:** Ayckbourn's latest foray into middle-class frustration. Julia McKenzie shines as the touched fantasist of the title. Vaudeville (01-836 9888).

**BREAKING THE CODE:** Derek Jacobi gives a compelling account of the pioneering computer scientist, Alan Turing, in Hugh Whitmore's intelligent stage biography. Haymarket (01-830 9832).

FILMS  
OPENINGS

**ROUND MIDNIGHT (15):** Bertrand Tavernier's loving homage to jazz musicians, set in Paris during the 1930s. Saxophonist Dexter Gordon plays the American musician (largely based on Bud Powell). Lutterlie (01-345 3368). Screen on the Hill (01-221 0220). From Fri.

**CRITTERS (15):** Round hairy objects with voracious appetites escape from a

## RADIO

**ON MAY DAY:** Play about the Chernobyl disaster by the actor Paul Copley, who was in Russia when it happened. Copley's wife, Natasha Pyne, plays the leading role of an Englishwoman aboard the Trans-Siberian Express. Radio 4, tomorrow, 2.30-3.30pm.

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**RODIN:** Major show exploring the close relationship between the old master Auguste Rodin's drawings and his sculpture. Hayward Gallery, London SE1 (01-828 3144).

**MEDIEVAL TREASURY:** The V&A's top-class medieval collection dusted up and re-presented in a newly-refurbished environment, thanks to Trust House Forte. Victoria and Albert Museum, London SW7 (01-589 6371).

**PAINTINGS IN SCOTLAND:** Paintings by Ramsay, Flaxman and Wilkie, demonstrating the quality of workmanship and inspiration that came out of Scotland during its Enlightenment. Tate Gallery, London SW1 (01-221 1313).

## RADIO

**ON MAY DAY:** Play about the Chernobyl disaster by the actor Paul Copley, who was in Russia when it happened. Copley's wife, Natasha Pyne, plays the leading role of an Englishwoman aboard the Trans-Siberian Express. Radio 4, tomorrow, 2.30-3.30pm.

**THE LOUD AWAKENER:** Patrick Malahide as the 18th-century churchman George Whitefield, famous for his open-air sermons to 25,000 people and for setting up the University of Pennsylvania. Radio 4, tomorrow, 10.15-11pm.

**WINDOWS:** Nicely offset portrait of one Doris Walker Bagg, who for the last 30 years has found fulfilment as a north London window cleaner. Radio 4, Tues, 8.30-9pm.

**LONDON BELONGS TO ME:** Norman Bird, Liz Smith and Kate Williams lead a four-part adaptation of Norman Collins' novel about a London household just before the Second World War. Radio 4, Wed, 3-4.45pm.

**A MUSICAL EVENING:** A series on American opera singers opens with Grace Bumbry, the flamboyant mezzo-soprano who helped to pave the way for the recognition of black artists. Radio 4, Thurs, 7.40-8.40pm.

**A MAN WITH CONNECTIONS:** Radio 3's Russian season ends with Alexander Gelman's play on the conflict between career and family life. Bill Paterson and Phyllis Logan play the ambitious husband and his suffering wife. Radio 3, Fri, 7.30-9pm.

**THE TRIAL OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD:** Yet another attempt to arrive at the truth of the Kennedy assassination, using a court hearing with a real judge and real lawyers and real witnesses. At the end a Texas jury gives its verdict. Channel 4, tomorrow, 7.15pm-12.45am.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

**LEE MILLER:** The life in pictures of the remarkable Lee Miller, whose career spanned a large part of this century from portrait and advertising work during the 1930s through to covering the Second World War in Europe. National Centre of Photography, Milsom Street, Bath (0225 62841).

**JEAN-PAUL BERGER:** Ten years of reportage photography by young Frenchman, Berger, who has obviously been deeply influenced by Cartier-Bresson. The core of the show is the Katagama Festival in Sri Lanka. Institut Français, 17 Queensberry Place, London SW7 (01-589 6211).

**CASTLE MUSEUM, Nottingham (0602 411861) from today.**

**EYE FOR INDUSTRY:** Another attempt to buy up flagging British spirits, by showing us how clever our designers have been over the last 50 years. Organized by the Royal Society of Arts, the exhibition celebrates those who have been designated Royal Designers for Industry, from bank-makers (Barney Wallis) to dress designers (Zandra Rhodes). Victoria and Albert Museum, London SW7 (01-589 6371) from Wed.

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## ENTERTAINMENTS

## THE SOUTH BANK CENTRE

Open all day with free exhibitions and lunchtime music. Coffee Shop, Bookshop, Record Shop, Buffet, Bars and Riverside Cafe. Join your favourite Friday evening. Enjoy the magnificent views of Big Ben and Parliament from our riverside walk.

## ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Saturday 22 Nov	Sunday 23 Nov	Monday 24 Nov	Tuesday 25 Nov	Wednesday 26 Nov	Thursday 27 Nov	Friday 28 Nov	Saturday 29 Nov	Sunday 30 Nov
12.30pm 1.30pm 7.30pm 9.30pm	12.30pm 1.30pm 7.30pm 9.30pm	12.30pm 1.30pm 7.30pm 9.30pm	12.30pm 1.30pm 7.30pm 9.30pm	12.30pm 1.30pm 7.30pm 9.30pm	12.30pm 1.30pm 7.30pm 9.30pm	12.30pm 1.30pm 7.30pm 9.30pm	12.30pm 1.30pm 7.30pm 9.30pm	12.30pm 1.30pm 7.30pm 9.30pm
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli Symphony No. 9 (Choral) Tickets: £15, £10, £5, £2.50, £1.50, £1.00	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli Symphony No. 9 (Choral) Tickets: £15, £10, £5, £2.50, £1.50, £1.00	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli Symphony No. 9 (Choral) Tickets: £15, £10, £5, £2.50, £1.50, £1.00	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli Symphony No. 9 (Choral) Tickets: £15, £10, £5, £2.50, £1.50, £1.00	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli Symphony No. 9 (Choral) Tickets: £15, £10, £5, £2.50, £1.50, £1.00	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli Symphony No. 9 (Choral) Tickets: £15, £10, £5, £2.50, £1.50, £1.00	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli Symphony No. 9 (Choral) Tickets: £15, £10, £5, £2.50, £1.50, £1.00	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli Symphony No. 9 (Choral) Tickets: £15, £10, £5, £2.50, £1.50, £1.00	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli Symphony No. 9 (Choral) Tickets: £15, £10, £5, £2.50, £1.50, £1.00

## QUEEN ELIZABETH II HALL

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## ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

## ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

## TOMORROW at 7.30

## ACADEMIC FESTIVAL OVERTURE

## PIANO CONCERTO NO. 2

## SYMPHONY NO. 2

## Conductor: ANTON DORATI

## Soloist: STEPHEN BISHOP-KOVACEVICH

## THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER at 7.30

## ACADEMIC FESTIVAL OVERTURE

## PIANO CONCERTO NO. 2

## SYMPHONY NO. 2

## Conductor: ANTON DORATI

## Soloist: JORGE BOLET

## Sponsored by NISSEAN UK LIMITED

## TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER at 7.30

## OVERTURE, PROMETHEUS

## VIOLIN CONCERTO

## ROMEO AND JULIET (EXCERPTS)

## Conductor: KURT MASUR

## Soloist: KYUNG WEA CHUNG

## Sponsored by PIA CHANGING GROUP

## FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER at 7.30

## OVERTURE, OBERON

## PIANO CONCERTO NO. 4

## SYMPHONY NO. 9

## Conductor: KURT MASUR

## Soloist: ELISABETH LEONSKAJA

## Made possible by Arthur Anderson &amp; Co. Foundation

## (£15, £10, £5, £2.50, £1.50, £1.00)

## RAYMOND GUBBAY presents at the BARBICAN

## TONIGHT at 8 p.m.

## MUSIC FROM SPAIN

## TICKETS at £10.50 ONLY

## ALL OTHERS SOLD

## FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER at 7.30 p.m.

## OVERTURE "POET AND PEASANT"

## PIANO CONCERTO NO. 1

## THE NUTCRACKER SUITE

## WALDIEF

## Conductor: MICHAEL CLEGG

## SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER at 3 p.m.

## THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS

## Conductor: PHILIP SIMS

## SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER at 7.30 p.m.

## JOHN WILLIAMS' CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

## PURCELL ROOM

At 11.15pm and 1.15pm. Lunchtime serenades. Tuesday at 1.10pm.

## LUNCHTIME SERENADES

## Tuesdays at 1.10pm

## LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

## JOHN LILL

## Tuesday 2 December 7.45pm

## Piano Concerto No. 1

## Piano Concerto No. 2

## Piano Concerto No. 3

## JAMES LOUGHRAN conductor

## Sponsored by The Agricultural Group Limited

## £11.50, £9.50, £7.50, £5.50, £3.50

## Sunday 7 December 7.30pm

## Overture "Egmont"

## Piano Concerto No. 1

## Piano Concerto No. 2

## Piano Concerto No. 3

## JAMES LOUGHRAN conductor

## Sponsored by The Agricultural Group Limited

## £11.50, £9.50, £7.50, £5.50, £3.50

## Box Office Tel 01-438 8991/8992/8993

## NORMAN MEADOWS LTD, present at the BARBICAN

## SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER at 7.45pm

## THE MIKADO

## A complete and original performance given by the LONDON SAVOYARDS

## Thomas Lawton, Geoffrey Shepstone, Alan Turner, Peter Robinson, Michael Wadsworth, Pauline Cook, John Burt, Alexander Hays, John Burt, Alexander Hays, John Burt, Alexander Hays

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## THE BARBICAN HALL

Barbican Centre, Silk St, EC2Y 8DS  
01-638 8891/828 8795  
Telephone Bookings: 10am-8pm 7 days a week  
Cancellations: 14 days before performance

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## SATURDAY 20 DECEMBER at 3 &amp; 7.30 p.m.

## JAMES GALWAY'S CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## MONDAY 22 DECEMBER at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## TUESDAY 23 DECEMBER at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## SATURDAY 27 DECEMBER at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## MONDAY 29 DECEMBER at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## TUESDAY 30 DECEMBER at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## WEDNESDAY 31 DECEMBER at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## THURSDAY 1 JANUARY at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## FRIDAY 2 JANUARY at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## SATURDAY 3 JANUARY at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## SUNDAY 4 JANUARY at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## MONDAY 5 JANUARY at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## TUESDAY 6 JANUARY at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## WEDNESDAY 7 JANUARY at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## THURSDAY 8 JANUARY at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## FRIDAY 9 JANUARY at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN

## Conductor: JAMES GALWAY

## SATURDAY 10 JANUARY at 2 p.m.

## THE SNOWMAN



## SPORTS DIARY

Frances Edmonds in Australia

### Test Match Special

After England's comeback win over Australia in Brisbane, I was looking forward to reporting the victory speech by captain Mike Gatting, whose hitherto innocuous, sensational-as-watching-paint-dry statements are fondly referred to as the "Gattingberg addresses." However, as I followed the all-male press corps into the enclosure outside the pavilion I was obstructed by a withered Oz-Cerberus defending the entrance with ferocity. "You cannot come in here," he ordered. "You are a lady." There was no answer to that.

Watching the after-match pavilion celebration in Cinderella-exclusion over the picket fence, I noted the absence from the champagne jollity of two Pom cricket correspondents. One, exercising a wise discretion, perhaps feared that Ian Botham would indeed prove to be the "boorish bully" so described in his column. The other would have been forced to gorge himself on his pre-match words that there were only three minor problems with the England team: "They can't bat, they can't bowl, and they can't field."

### Due reward

Before the first Test I ventured to suggest to the England team's disciplinary assistant manager, Micky Stewart, that he should scrap the traditional pre-match team talk and send his hitherto beleaguered higher-order batsmen to the Queensland Performing Arts Centre instead. There, the Australian Opera Company was putting in a useful didactic performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Pastime*. The advice, it would appear, was taken to heart.

### Little wonder

Few people are upset that the Test players' "dwarf-tossing" competition has been cancelled after protests by the Little People of Australia Association. Though the practice was condemned by the European Parliament 12 months ago as tasteless and undignified, it continues to flourish Down Under. Promoters have even found a variation called dwarf-tossing, where the unfortunate participant is strapped to a state-board and rolled head first into a set of ten-pins.

### Bounced out

I must leap to the defence of Middlesex and former England Test bowler Norman Cowans, who is being sued by the Brisbane cricket club for breach of contract. Cowans flew back to England late last month after playing only one and a half games, giving flood damage to his London home as the reason. Perhaps Norman's precipitate exit may have been related to the off-pitch employment the club saw fit to organize for him — bouncing at the local nightclub.

### Pious hope

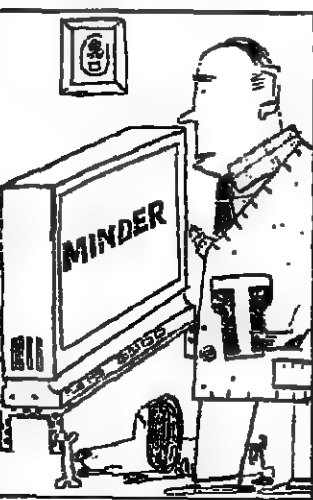
Perhaps Pope John Paul II should make a detour after his visit to the Melbourne Cricket Ground later this month — a jaunt sponsored by a beer company — and take a look at the Junction Oval on the road in St Kilda. The jinxed Oval desperately needs a papal blessing, if not a complete exorcism. A few weeks ago, New South Wales captain Duff Swain rearranged a female first-classer with an inadvertent swipe of his bat when emerging from the dressing room, and last week a huge spotlight crashed on to a photographer's head for no apparent earthly reason.

● **Orright**, as they say here in Oz, I know no one is going to believe this, but there is a rugby player in Hong Kong named Rick Shaw.

### Latin leeway

Everyone in Fremantle, battling away for the America's Cup, finds the Italian syndicate led by Aldo Migliaccio *molto simpatico*. A crane dropped on their new yacht and sank it; their Alfa Romeo car ran into a kangaroo and the stunned marsupial hopped off with the keys; and the dirty work needed on their boat is messing up up their Gucci-sponsored designer uniforms. "We all adore them," Andrew ("Spud") Spedding, shore manager of the British challenger, White Crusader, told me, adding mischievously, "We know when they are about to tack. They all take a final drag and throw their cigarettes overboard."

BARRY FANTONI



"I'm not sure — I think it's the new Christmas. Don't drink and drive campaign."

## Kenneth Minogue opposes the campaign against 'reckless' lending



## Don't deny us our freedom to be foolish

Like most readers of *The Times* I have endless credit thrust upon me. Banks, credit cards, department stores, even the AA units in offering me apparently limitless cash. Since I am not in deep need, nor much given to buying gold shares from casual acquaintances, these offers are barely through the letterbox before they hit the bin.

Occasionally, however, I glance at the prose, and it makes me cringe: naked appeals to the more infantile impulses to grasp whatever one might think of as a golden opportunity. What could be more corrupt than a population which really had succeeded in taking the waiting out of wanting? Images of gross surplus exploitation float before the mind. Ought not something to be done about it?

Some people have taken the first step towards doing something about it. They have invented the concept of "reckless lending" by those negligent in considering the borrower's circumstances. As a stick with which to beat usurers, the idea has great promise because it fits neatly into other current forms of moral thinking. It impales lenders at home and abroad and even promises to explain the present condition of the many Third World countries suffering from earlier orgies of borrowing.

The short shelf-life of many lenders must dispose them to favour borrowing as an easy way out of trouble; tomorrow's problems are less than today's, especially if someone else will have to deal with them. By contrast, the average Briton with his eye on a holiday in the West Indies won't be able to visit his sins on his children. He will just be paying long after the tan has faded. Meanwhile, mortgages collapse and credit card debts accumulate. Already debt is sliding over the threshold of public awareness into a public issue.

It was an observation of Lord Melbourne's that nothing so thoroughly frightened him as the phrase "something must be done." In so vague a state of mind, he thought, people usually did foolish things. "Recklessness" in this context is so strikingly vague as potentially to cover any lending that goes wrong. The evil to be corrected would not be fraud, or misrepresentation, but any judgement that turns out to be wrong about the value of the loan to the borrower. One does not have to take Cain's view of brotherhood to conclude that lenders cannot really be saddled with the duty of reckless avoidance and that the entire responsibility for the act of borrowing must rest upon the judgement of the borrower. To think otherwise is to construe borrowers as less than fully responsible human beings.

Yet in sticking firmly to the conviction that every citizen is fully responsible for his or her own actions, we may be putting at risk the very moral standards we seek to sustain. There is a career path in the activity of regulation which runs: invent a concept, define an evil, emphasize those actual fea-

tures of reality which exhibit the evil, organize a pressure group, and legislation will eventually follow. This activity, occasionally genuinely needed, is effective because it reveals something important about contemporary life.

What is it, then, that is revealed in the savings for action over "reckless lending"? We may put the point in the rather quaint language that used to be affected by the deeper sort of playwright earlier in the century: our society is living a lie; we are living a lie because we assume that all our fellow citizens are free, independent spirits capable of taking responsibility for their own lives and for exercising appropriate prudence in the conduct of their lives. If we do make this assumption, then the idea of "reckless lending" has no force, because the reckless lender would be unable to find reckless borrowers.

There's no doubt, then, that the regulator who wishes something done about this evil has truth and reality on his side, because there is obviously a great deal of incompetent self-management about. Any proposed reform would deal with the moral problem of temptation by the legislative device of abolishing the tempting object, in this case instantly available cash. But it is obvious that tempting objects are many, and that the project of abolishing "reckless lending" floats on a sea of similar judgements and projects.

One such judgement is that certain speeches or actions to which exception may be taken are

by separating the sexes and garbing women up to the eyeballs; our Western custom has been to rely upon male self-control. A parallel case is the reckless flaunting of goods in supermarkets, putting a heavy strain on those inclined to luxury.

"Recklessness" in these arguments is thus one face of the other side of the coin of freedom: not indeed, a very attractive face, but one we had better reckon with until we are translated to angelhood. Lacking the capacity for self-management, many people otherwise enthusiastic about freedom begin to demand protection from the evils which usually accompany it. And there are always politicians ready to offer the demanded protection. But in politics, nothing is ever quite what it seems. Compassion in private life is one of the supreme virtues, but compassion in politics is concerned not with people but with classes of people. It is thus often the handmaid of despotism, which is the propensity of the powerful to manage the lives of the powerless.

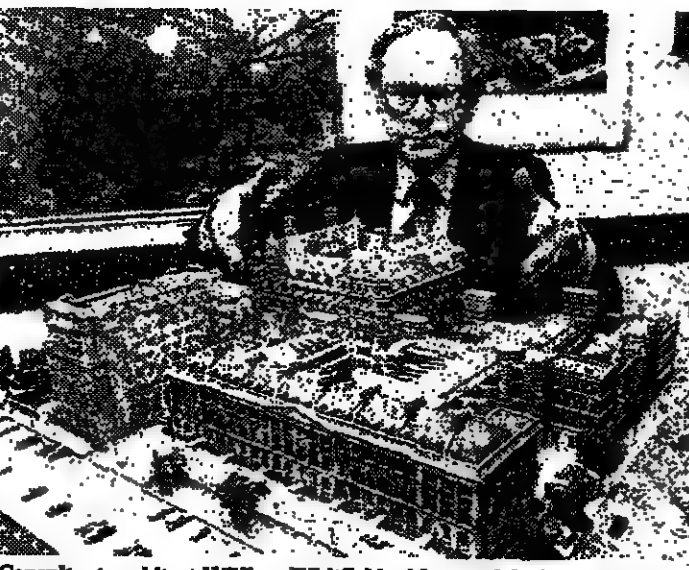
Beyond a certain point, protecting people by regulating things construed as evil enfeebles. The idea that offering temptation to our fellow citizens is reckless is, then, one for which a strong case can be made, both in terms of the moral duty not to exploit failings and in terms of the evident weakness of human beings. But it is in the highest degree a dangerous argument. For if we succumb to it, we shall soon lose the benefits of a society in which we are free to enjoy all manner of marvellous temptations on condition that, unlike the Oscar Wildes of this world, we succumb to them only sometimes, and judiciously.

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Kenneth Minogue, Professor of Political Science at the London School of Economics, is presenting *The New Enlightenment* on Channel 4 (Wednesdays, 8.30).

## Clive Aslet charts the blundering record of the government's heritage guardians

## A listed quango due for chop



Consultant architect William Whitfield with a model of the Richmond Terrace project: a grand design flawed by PSA interior destruction

British Museum. Emergency repairs are sporadically carried out but no overall strategy has been devised to rescue the surviving buildings.

● The former Royal Ordnance Depot, Woolwich, near Northampton: This "another place that is stunningly impressive," says Ken Powell of Save Britain's Heritage. It was built in 1803, at the height of the Napoleonic Wars, on a site that was intended to be the very centre of England. Had the French invaded, George III would have been rushed there and housed in a royal pavilion, while soldiers from the barracks could have been hurried by canal to whichever sector of war needed them most.

The compound also contained a series of four pairs of stunning warehouse-like magazine buildings, alternating with single bay blast houses. Military activity ceased in 1965. Shamefully, 20 acres of the site were sold by the old Ministry of Works five years later. Despite listing, the royal pavilion and barracks were demolished and replaced by suburban houses. The remarkable magazine buildings survived but were allowed to fall into such a state of decay that a report commissioned in 1982 stated that repairs would cost more than £1 million. In 1984 they were sold by the PSA to a property developer and the site has been put back on the market for six times what he paid.

Neither the PSA's presumed

Second World War by, among others, Lord Mountbatten as *Officer of Special Operations*. But after 1945 it was blighted by government indecision and left to decay until a campaign by the national conservation societies forced an inquiry in 1972. It was agreed that the building would be restored, keeping the rooms on the front with their handsome details. But Cruikshank comments: "All the front rooms were removed through a series of tragic blunders."

The facade is now being restored impeccably, under consultant architects, but behind the facade the terrace has been reconstructed to a new plan. The character and historic integrity of the old rooms with their uneven walls has been destroyed. Some period details will be replaced, having been preserved in a PSA store. Others, such as the best chimney-piece, were smashed while still in the building.

The PSA is capable of carrying out first-class work, particularly when under the supervision of the small but expert staff at the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (English Heritage) or an outside consultant architect. The £17 million restoration of Fort George, Inverness, built after Culloden, is admirable. Special projects of this kind, however, are few, and the vast majority of buildings receive no such expert attention. Buildings not in the public eye are left to rot through lack of maintenance; too often, repair and conversion work is undertaken without consultation.

This is possible because of the system by which government buildings are exempted from the usual systems of planning consent and listed building control. The Crown is above the law.

At the Royal Society of Arts conference last month, Michael Heseltine, a former Environment Secretary, advocated privatizing sections of the PSA and returning its management to the departments that occupy them. This has already happened with British embassies abroad, now run directly by the Foreign Office.

Whereas museums and galleries have expert curators capable of taking decisions on historic buildings, government departments do not. But there is every argument for them to employ outside architects. A private architect worth his salt will fight a philistine client until he accepts an architecturally plausible solution. The PSA, on the other hand, is constantly to be found in a supine pose, agreeing to — and perpetrating — travesties.

An independent architect has the final weapon of resignation. The PSA can never resign. It may be time it is sacked.

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Clive Aslet is architectural editor of *Country Life*.

## Peter Brimelow

## On the inside looking down

New York  
The English sing in pubs, the Irish sing at wakes — and the Jews sing at the SEC (Securities & Exchange Commission). Wall Street was awash with sick jokes this week as the spreading insider trading scandal sent waves of selling through the market.

It is tempting to see this alertness to the ethnicity of those "helping the police with their inquiries" as evidence of crude prejudice pervading American life — except for the fact that most of the jokes seem to be invented by Jews. Similarly, the uproar about the use of inside information may have more to do with misconceived law and regulation than with some sudden collapse of moral standards in the financial community.

Strictly speaking, insider trading is the buying or selling of a stock by those with privileged information about it. They might be directors or officers in the company, or particularly large shareholders. Their activities are legal if the information on which they are acting, such as news about sales or earnings, has been disseminated to the public and if their share transactions are reported to the SEC.

The current insider imbroglio has centred (up to now) on the activities of "risk arbitrageurs" — speculators who specialize in accumulating shares of companies threatened by takeover bids. Often they become major shareholders, initiate takeovers themselves, and even intervene in the management of their companies.

Arbitrageurs are intensely unpopular with many important people. Incumbent managements have been horrified at the destruction of whole ways of comfortable corporate life following the recent takeovers of companies that were household names in America, among them Gulf Oil and the TWA airline. American journalists and politicians, who because of this country's absence of a formal class structure tend to convince themselves that they constitute the elite, are distressed by the successful arbitrageurs' rapid accumulation of riches.

For example, Ivan F. Boesky, whose appointment by the SEC caused this latest splash, was the son of an immigrant delicatessen owner in Detroit. He graduated from the obscure Detroit College of Law and came to New York because no big Detroit law firm would hire him. In 20 years on Wall Street, he amassed a net worth (assets less debt) estimated at \$250 million.

It is less clear that shareholders dislike arbitrageurs. Takeover offers frequently represent an opportunity for them to sell out at prices substantially above those

prevailing in the market. This may be inconvenient for company managers, but it's not the company managers who own the stock. Aside from an economic standpoint — whatever the objections raised in an article on this page yesterday — takeovers are a way in which capital is shifted out of unprofitable and into profitable areas, regardless of how much of it passes through an asset-stripper's bank account. Otherwise company managers have a marked tendency to sit on cash reserves, or to spend them on empire building.

Unfortunately for arbitrageurs, and for the American capital markets in general, securities legislation here was written after the 1929 Great Crash in the belief that it had been caused by "manipulation". This view was about as sophisticated as the simultaneous conclusion by a congressional committee that the First World War was caused by "munitions kings".

But the SEC, a ponderous legal bureaucracy, has been set up to enforce "fairness". Its definition is so rigorous that it has even argued that an investor landing at an airport, who saw through the plane window that a factory was on fire, should not rush to the phone to sell his stock until the information had been fully disseminated.

The restrictions on insider trading reflect a fundamentally non-economic theory of information. In the grossly idealized case above, for example, critics would argue that SEC regulation has reduced the incentive for investors both to find out about fires and to sound the alarm by selling stock (which would effectively put the information into the market place). It has interfered with the efficiency of the market, and, since the profit opportunities for those actually possessing inside information are much greater when information is suppressed, it has paradoxically created a greater incentive for lawbreaking, just as Prohibition made a bonanza out of illegal liquor sales.

Boesky, of course, was also actually bringing an investment banker to break his employer's confidence. But there also there is a balancing mechanism in the shape of self-regulation stemming from the employer's self-interest, not to mention the law of fraud.

Ironically, there are investment advisory services that have been able to beat the market by following the legal insider trading reported to the SEC. Their loudly expressed view is that the SEC should stop arresting arbitrageurs — and try harder to make them file on time.

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The author is a senior editor of *Forbes Magazine*.

## Philip Howard

## Overwhelmed by history

How does one write history these days? It was so much easier when the world was simpler. And Belshazzar, and Jobah the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his stead. Herodotus, Father of History, Father of Lies, simply packed his reporter's tablets and went off on a jaunt to gossip about crocodiles with Egyptian priests, or sketch the topography of Babylon.

In the days when history was supposed to run on royal railway lines, as in Sellar and Yeatman, it was simplified into Good Things and Bad Things: Alfred had a very interesting wife called Lady Winifred (The Lady of the Lake), who was always clothed in the same white frock, and used to go bathing with Sir Launcelot and was thus a Bad Queen.

Gibbon, Macaulay and our other giant historians dealt with vast and complex matters but gave them a compulsive course that made their histories hard to put down even for the general reader, though Gibbon does eventually run out of steam.

It is not that history is not being written. More of it pours out the academic presses in a year than used to be published in a century. One trouble with history today is that it has become increasingly specialized and esoteric for the general reader: for example, *Early Victorian Water Engineers* by Geoffrey Morse Binnie, published in 1981. Or how about *Millennium Charisma Among the Pathans* (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1976)? Or care for a bite at *Cannibalism and the Common Law*, by A.W. Brian Simpson, published earlier this year? All good stuff, so doubt, for fans of the subjects. But the general reader would need to be omnivorous or very bored to tackle them.

There are few books for the intelligent general reader in the desert that stretches between romances for visitors to Madame Tussauds and academic works for the specialist. Are there any? Another trouble is that historiography and the other modern historiographic techniques, intended to make history more scientific, tend to make dry reading, except from the pen of a genius like Ronnie Syme or Braudel. I suspect that to write big history you need a bee in your bonnet rather than academic objectivity: Macaulay, Gibbon, and Tacitus certainly had queen bees in their bonnets. If this is true, why are Marxist historians and other modern historians,

who certainly have bees in their bonnets and a Procrustean attitude to their material, unreadable? But the principal trouble with trying to write history today is that there is too much of it. The world is no longer run by a handful of rulers in Western Europe. And there is more to history these days than who beat whom in which battle, and who succeeded whom on what throne — there always was, but it was deemed irrelevant.



Chris Wrennall

International politics and economics are vital, no doubt. But they are hard to turn into compulsive reading. And that is why people who used to read history have turned to the comparatively new literary genres of biography and historical fiction. The life of one person, and the fictional recreation of past time, are more alive than international treaties, and more fun to read. They may also be more truthful.

This confusion about what is important in the long eye of history also affects us hodge-podge of history, the journals. *The Times* is supposed to be the paper of record, but which of our records will be considered significant by a historian in a century's time? Most of the things we work ourselves into a sweat of excitement about, whether Fudge succeeds Mudge as leader of the Neanderthal Party, what the Budget will contain, the Salt talks, will seem as remote as and less interesting than the laws of Lycurgus in Ancient Sparta 30 centuries ago. Let us hope that the poor Noah, who survives the cataclysm of events to write our history, has a sympathetic imagination to see, as we are, and make allowances.





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## CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

With the offer by Myra Hindley to help the police to find the bodies of missing children who may be buried on Saddleworth Moor, the Moors murderers have returned to television news bulletins and the front pages of popular newspapers. Such fascination with crimes which, however terrible, took place over twenty years ago, undoubtedly has its morbid side. To dwell on cruelty and horror is one of the less attractive aspects of human nature, but it must be admitted that it also one of its strongest and most permanent features.

There is also, however, a cathartic element in it. One reason for the sharpness of the public reaction to any reports involving Hindley and Brady is that it reminds us of the extraordinary viciousness of their crimes. To torture and kill people for pleasure is vile in the extreme but, alas, it is not unique. The American police have even invented the term "recreational murders" to describe it. But to torture and kill children, and to record their sufferings for later enjoyment, reveals a depravity which people find beyond belief. It is natural both that they should be alert to any news involving such crimes and that they should want to be reassured that the criminals have been fittingly punished.

In this regard, the greater

interest shown by the public in Myra Hindley over Ian Brady is instructive. Hindley's participation in their joint crime strikes people as even more alarming than Brady's since cruelty to children seems a more profound violation of a woman's nature than of a man's. It is certain that she has proved the stronger of the two. He has "cracked" in prison whereas she has maintained a lively interest in life, has found friends among the prisoners, and has assisted Lord Longford and others to conduct a campaign for her release.

It is, of course, that campaign which accounts for the public's nervous suspicion that any new development in the case might indicate her parole. Her willingness to help the police on this occasion is thus interpreted as a cynical move either to avoid prosecution for any further murders that come to light, or to convince the Parole Board, as she has convinced Lord Longford, that she is a changed woman, deeply religious and fit to enter normal life again.

She may, indeed, have changed in many ways. It would be remarkable if she had not changed after twenty years in which she was able to reflect upon her past crimes. But the state of psychiatric medicine is still sufficiently primitive for society to be unable to rely on the assur-

ances of psychiatrists that someone has entirely recovered from a dangerous mental state and that they will never suffer a relapse. Behaviour in prison is not a very reliable guide to behaviour outside. And when the criminal has committed acts as heinous as the crimes of which Hindley was guilty, we cannot risk a repetition. The safety of the public requires her continued detention.

That practical consideration is not, however, the sole one. Hindley should remain in prison because she has committed crimes which, in the absence of the death penalty, deserve the exemplary punishment of life imprisonment. That is so even if — as Christians must hope and believe possible — she has genuinely repented of her sins and found some relief from her guilt in turning to God. One symptom of genuine repentance, indeed, would be her acceptance of the justice of her punishment and a willingness to hope for God's grace in the life and work of prison.

To ask that of Hindley, Lord Longford notwithstanding, is not to refuse to forgive her as God instructs us to forgive repentant sinners. It is to recognise that by her acts she has rightly forfeited freedom in the everyday meaning of the word and can now only hope for that spiritual freedom which God alone can bestow.

## MR GANDHI'S TAR BABY

Tamil guerrilla leaders this week rejected for the second time in a month the Sri Lankan government's latest terms for settling the island's ethnic conflict. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the largest of the guerrilla organizations, announced instead that they would set up an independent state in northern Sri Lanka on January 1.

The proposed peace terms granted the Tamils significant autonomy within newly created provincial councils. But on the question of linking the northern and eastern provinces to create a Tamil enclave, the best on offer was a hint that the government in Colombo would, within 18 months of an agreement being concluded, appoint a boundaries commission to investigate the matter.

For the five guerrilla organizations who were asked to give up their fight for an independent Eelam this was not enough. For President Jayawardene, who already faces strong political and religious opposition to his devolution proposals, it would have been difficult to offer more.

The impasse will have immediate repercussions in Sri Lanka. Now that the attempt to reach a political compromise has failed, President Jayawardene will be under

great pressure to try a military solution. Whenever the political process has faltered in the past, the army has been quick to step in. And when it does, retaliation from the guerrillas is swift. This means that the violence is now likely to escalate.

Much will depend on how Mr Rajiv Gandhi's government in India responds. Previously it has veered between support for and criticism of the Sri Lankan government's position. But its most recent public pronouncements commit it to supporting the Colombo government. India recommended acceptance of the peace terms to the guerrillas and may be displeased by their rejection.

If that is so, it is possible that Mr Gandhi may proceed to expel them from their sanctuaries in south India. He intimated such action when the Madras police took action against guerrilla establishments earlier this month. The effect of such action will, however, be limited. Most of the guerrillas have anticipated just such action and are well prepared. Yet it will limit India's influence on any solution to the Tamil question and give the impression that she is washing her hands of the Sri Lankan crisis.

There are those who would

welcome such a solution on the grounds that it is an internal problem for Sri Lanka and the two sides might be better left to slug it out between themselves.

Yet India may be the only party which could, by virtue of the capital it has built up with both sides, eventually help to formulate an acceptable solution. For this reason it might be better for India to regard the breakdown of the talks as a pause in the peace process, rather than a signal to extricate itself from the Sri Lankan tangle.

If India were to encourage the Colombo government to offer a partition of the eastern province so as to unite the Tamil sector with the north and if at the same time it were to exert pressure on the guerrillas to accept this partial concession, the gap between the two sides might just be bridged.

It will not be easy, however. It will mean handing the guerrillas with an ingenuity that has hitherto been lacking. It will mean asking President Jayawardene to accept greater political risks than he has so far taken. It might, eventually, pay off. But since the risks and the constitutional responsibilities are President Jayawardene's, his must be the final decision on its practicality.

## FOURTH LEADER

You can get almost anything by telephone these days, from gardening advice to Dial-a-Dish in several senses of dish, if you can only connect. But it has been left to the Italians to introduce English lessons by telephone. The Italian telephone company SIP has started to teach English on two direct lines. The beginners' and advanced courses, entitled "Yes" and "Hello", consist of 150 three-minute lessons for 360 lire or about 30p each. The service has been launched in Rome, Milan, Turin, Genoa, and Florence, and will soon be extended to other cities. The accompanying text book, which has just gone on sale, gives as Lesson No 1: a telephone conversation.

This is surprising news for those of us who thought of Italian telephones as the equivalent of our Space Invader machines. By their location in the most crowded corner of the bistro, by the treasure hunt to procure the necessary tokens, by the exotic humming and pinging noises they make, they have seemed primarily a test of skill rather than a means of communication.

But if they are going to start giving English lessons, we doubt whether they are prudent to begin with the most sophisticated and ambiguous of English dialects. Telephone English is different from face-to-face conversation because it lacks the non-verbal aids and modifiers: nods and winks, raised eyebrows, and for Ital-

ians the rapidly reciprocating hand like a man drying lettuce. People who plunge straight into an exercise in Telephone English without stating their names clearly are assuming that we can see them or can immediately recognize their voices which is self-important.

At a still more advanced level, Italian pupils in Telephone English will need to be taught how to deal with the inhuman voice of the answering machine, with its whimsical or crisp instructions that can turn articulate gasbags into stuttering incoherents. There is an answering machine message in California that goes: "You have reached the... family. What you hear is the barking of our killer Doberman Pinscher, Wolf. Please leave a message after the tone." The Telephone English speaker who comes up with a snappy reply to that message is marked Alpha Plus.

The management psychologists, who have made British Airways staff so volubly polite that you want to strangle them, have just started to get a grip on the telephone techniques of big companies. If you ring one of them these days, the operator will say sweetly: "Good morning, Sunbeam Extraction from Cucumbers International. Thank you for calling. We will play some music while you are waiting to be connected." This is Black Belt Telephone English technique. It at once puts the caller at a disadvantage, especially if he has telephoned to complain,

and does not want to be thanked for anything.

At some stage in the course the Italian learners in the telephone box are going to have to be initiated in the Chicken Game, first-to-the-phone-is-a-wimp, of Telephone English. This is played mainly by secretaries and assistants, and its conventions are as complex as chess. The trick is to be the last to get one's boss on the line, so that it is the other party who has to do the waiting. Status and machismo depend upon not being the one who is hanging on, and the subtleties used to get the other main speaker to commit himself to the 'phone first are as beautifully intricate as the grammar of shall and will.

Learners of Telephone English will also need to master the Thurber unseen technique: "Well, if I called the wrong number, why did you answer the phone?" At A-level they will tackle such problems as what to reply when telephoned at two o'clock in the morning with the cheerful remark: "I do hope I haven't disturbed you." Answer: the text book reply is: "Oh, no; that's quite all right. I had to get up to answer the telephone anyway."

Teaching English by the telephone is a commendable and let us hope profitable project. The mistake is to start with the most difficult of all sorts of English. Italians would be wiser to imitate us and spend the first few years learning simpler types of English, such as Beowulf and the Fourth Leader.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Crisis for destitute homeless

From Dr Malcolm P. I. Weller

Sir, I should like to draw attention to the plight of the mentally ill deprived of services. Mr John Mowbray, QC, is not quite correct in suggesting (November 10) that Banstead was the first large mental hospital to close. An earlier case was St Wulstan's, a specialist rehabilitation hospital at Malvern, from which the patients were removed last January.

In both cases the hospitals to which the patients were transferred had themselves been designated for closure. Horton, Banstead's successor, has now been reprieved, but St Wulstan's successor, Powick Hospital, at Worcester, is energetically planning for closure in 1988.

Mr Mowbray and others use the term "released" for the compulsory ejection of voluntary patients who have chosen to spend many years in a protected hospital environment. Of the long-stay patients at Friern Hospital, designated for closure soon, less than 2 per cent are detained compulsorily and many of these are so detained under Home Office directives.

In assessing the numbers requiring extensive care, so-called high-dependency patients, it is not sufficient to plan for the population of long-stay patients in hospitals. It is also necessary to provide for those equally disabled unfavourable who are not in hospital but whose needs are either barely served by existing arrangements or not at all.

Last Christmas my son and I found actively hallucinating destitute men who had never received any treatment, many not claiming any benefit of any kind. These men, who are being "cared for" in the "community", were without friends or family support and generally without dental or medical care. One man with tuberculosis was sleeping under the arches of a clearing cross station on Christmas Eve without his medication.

It is this group on whom our planning should focus as a matter of the most pressing priority.

### Funding the arts

From the Chairman of the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery Sir, Your report (November 18) the Government's financial provisions for the arts for next year, which sadly do not take seriously into account one of the most urgent and long-standing needs, namely additional space for the National Portrait Gallery, long recognised by government as a top priority.

In recent years the gallery's collecting policy has been widened to include major contemporary figures. This has inevitably intensified the need for more gallery space, which was already acute. The work of living artists, which we have tried so hard to encourage, and the inspirational images of the makers of modern

lines and procedures are being drawn up and implemented.

Cases between householders and environment-conscious councils such as Westminster are inevitable. Naturally, I am sorry when we do not get it right every time; but we will not stop trying. Yours faithfully, SHIRLEY PORTER, Leader, Westminster City Council, Westminster City Hall, Victoria Street, SW1, November 20.

From Mr M. C. Hyde Sir, "Woodmen, spare that tree" is an injunction which any sensible citizen would ignore if it threatened his health and home, particularly if the offending tree was not protected by a preservation order. Instead of using your space to petition Lady Porter, Leader of Westminster City Council, Bernard Levin should have castigated his friends for a singular lack of common sense. Yours truly, M. C. HYDE, 66 West Grove, Greenwich, SE10, November 18.

manor automatically carried with it a coat of arms. Manors go back to Saxon times, well before coats of arms were invented. In the earliest times and for many centuries, they were the lowest level of administrative and judicial authority. Today the rights and duties of lords of manors are no more than a vestigial echo of their past importance.

Mr Smith also shows a woeful lack of knowledge of the wording of letters patent granting armorial bearings. The object of describing a grantee of arms in the letters patent is to distinguish one Smith from another Smith with sufficient precision to avoid confusion between the two. Yours faithfully, RODNEY DENNIS, Arundel Herald of Arms Extraordinary, College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, EC4, November 13.

Over the top From Mr Hugh Williams Sir, I read with mixed feelings your report (November 15) about the introduction of surtitles at Covent Garden. I myself had encountered them for the first time only a few days previously during Glyndebourne's splendid production of *Simon Boccanegra* at the Palace Theatre, Manchester. My view was that although they aided comprehension, they undermined appreciation and spoiled the total impact of a successful performance.

However, it also occurred to me that it would be much better if the

The deliberate closure last year of Camberwell Reception Centre, the largest in Europe, where one in five had tuberculosis and 80 per cent slept rough, has been unhelpful, as has the move to redesignate Bruce House as a hotel and prevent open access, at a time when more than 2,000 common lodging houses have recently closed in London.

The housing by local authorities, with a statutory obligation to the vulnerable homeless, of a mere 4,000 out of the 70,000 long-stay patients discharged since 1954 does little to inspire confidence. Yours faithfully, M. WELLER (Vice-Chairman, North East Thames Regional Committee for Hospital Medical Services), Friern Hospital, Friern Barnet Road, N11, November 20.

### Cold comfort?

From the Rev Edward Underhill Sir, "Two million children face a jumble sale Christmas", lamented the Leader of the Opposition in the debate on the Queen's speech (report, November 13). They will not be able to "wear the clothes that other children enjoy", he said. But might this be no bad thing? Don't most children — even in this inner-city parish — have too many and too expensive clothes? It would be better if we all were more frugal and sensible in our buying of clothes; we would then not only have better quality clothing, but also would have spare cash to give to those in other places that have no clothes.

And, Sir, what is wrong with jumble sale or, at least, Oxford tailoring? Recently my local Oxford shop has provided me with two shooting suits (£7 each) and a 22oz weight hacking jacket which is, literally, the envy of the discerning wherever and whenever it is worn. Yours sincerely, EDWARD UNDERHILL, St George's Vicarage, 327 Durham Road, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear.

British history, cannot be displayed for the benefit of our ever-increasing numbers of visitors.

This situation is ironic, since we have in recent years ceded two sites to the National Gallery for its expansion. It could be solved quite simply. The adjacent site of the former dental hospital in Leicester Square is on offer to the gallery for the display of our twentieth-century collections.

This golden opportunity, which offers the gallery, Leicester Square and the nation so much, cannot be allowed to pass. The gallery has only until November 28 to find the funds before the site is due to be sold on the open market. Yours faithfully, KENYON, Chairman of the Trustees, National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, WC2.

lines and procedures are being drawn up and implemented.

Cases between householders and environment-conscious councils such as Westminster are inevitable. Naturally, I am sorry when we do not get it right every time; but we will not stop trying. Yours faithfully, SHIRLEY PORTER, Leader, Westminster City Council, Westminster City Hall, Victoria Street, SW1, November 20.

From Mr M. C. Hyde Sir, "Woodmen, spare that tree" is an injunction which any sensible citizen would ignore if it threatened his health and home, particularly if the offending tree was not protected by a preservation order. Instead of using your space to petition Lady Porter, Leader of Westminster City Council, Bernard Levin should have castigated his friends for a singular lack of common sense. Yours truly, M. C. HYDE, 66 West Grove, Greenwich, SE10, November 18.

manor automatically carried with it a coat of arms. Manors go back to Saxon times, well before coats of arms were invented. In the earliest times and for many centuries, they were the lowest level of administrative and judicial authority. Today the rights and duties of lords of manors are no more than a vestigial echo of their past importance.

Mr Smith also shows a woeful lack of knowledge of the wording of letters patent granting armorial bearings. The object of describing a grantee of arms in the letters patent is to distinguish one Smith from another Smith with sufficient precision to avoid confusion between the two. Yours faithfully, RODNEY DENNIS, Arundel Herald of Arms Extraordinary, College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, EC4, November 13.

Over the top From Mr Hugh Williams Sir, I read with mixed feelings your report (November 15) about the introduction of surtitles at Covent Garden. I myself had encountered them for the first time only a few days previously during Glyndebourne's splendid production of *Simon Boccanegra* at the Palace Theatre, Manchester. My view was that although they aided comprehension, they undermined appreciation and spoiled the total impact of a successful performance.

However, it also occurred to me that it would be much better if the

### Putting atom of truth in focus

From Professor M. J. Seaton, FRS Sir, In an article of November 15 the Canon of Windsor, Derek Stanesby, claims that contemporary science has characteristics which lead us immediately to the realm of religion and theology. Previous articles in your religious affairs column have advanced similar claims and I think that the time has come for them to be challenged.

The canon's arguments are concerned with the "new" physics and in particular with quantum theory which was developed during the first 30 years of the present century and is by now no more new than "modern" art is modern. The theory is about atoms, of which there are about 50 billion billion in every cubic centimetre of atmospheric air. Since atoms have sizes very different from those of everyday objects it is not surprising that the concepts required to describe them are not everyday concepts.

Quantum theory provides a mathematical description of atomic phenomena which is quite remarkably powerful, a point which the theologians often fail to appreciate. Far from being narrow and esoteric, of interest only to the specialist, the theory is of great power in explaining the world about us: why oxygen is a gas and from a metal; how atoms combine to form molecules; the properties of chemical compounds; the mechanisms by which light is emitted and absorbed by matter. A large part of modern technology is applied quantum theory.

The Canon of Windsor claims that quantum theory contains a mystical element which brings man "to his knees once again". I find three dictionary definitions of the word "mystical": having a spiritual character by virtue of a union with god; of dark import; and connected with occult rites. None of them, to my knowledge, has any relevance to quantum theory, and I see no reason why one of the greatest intellectual achievements of humankind should bring us to our knees.

There remains the "slippery subject of truth", to which the canon refers. I don't think that most scientists find it so slippery. There is a great deal which we know and a lot more which we don't. That is what makes science so exciting. Yours truly, M. J. SEATON, University College London, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Gower Street, WC1, November 16.

Aids precaution From the Bishop of Brentwood Sir, In your news report on Aids (November 18, later editions) you mention that the priests of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brentwood have been advised to use a disposable spoon when giving communion to Aids sufferers.

You omitted to say that this advice only concerned those in hospital, where there was barrier nursing, and would only be done in consultation with the hospital authorities.

As regards communion in church and drinking from the chalice, medical evidence overwhelmingly states that there is no danger of contracting Aids when receiving communion from the shared cup.

In the present situation it is important that we show very real compassion and above all that we help to overcome misunderstandings and fears. Yours faithfully, THOMAS MCMAHON, Bishop of Brentwood, Stock, Inglestone, Essex.

### English in schools

From Mr H. Cunningham Sir, In assuring his audience that there is no intention of reintroducing traditional grammar into the English curriculum Mr Baker missed the point (report, November 8). It is not its complexity that is at fault; it is the fact that it has no effect on the way a youngster writes.

Teachers who years ago had to administer it in weekly doses were well aware that whatever else they were doing they were not helping their pupils to write a more vigorous or even a more "correct" prose. Their views were confirmed by research carried out in the 1960s, and by the work of linguistic scientists.

In 1964 the report of the Secondary School Examinations Council on the examining of English language referred to traditionally presented rules of grammar which have been artificially imposed upon the language. They have had little relevance to usage at any past time and they have even less to contemporary usage.

If there has been a decline in standards of literacy I suppose it is natural to cast around for such an attractively easy explanation. It will be interesting to see the terms of reference of the new committee. "What pupils should be taught about (my italics) the language" has an ominous sound. It might augur a return to English through exercises. Hundreds of schoolchildren have wasted hundreds of hours in turning direct speech into indirect or in scanning a passage in search of a zeugma, proceedings of the same level of futility as paraphrasing Hamlet's soliloquies. Is there really a need for yet another inquiry? Yours faithfully, H. CUNNINGHAM, 4 Hilltop Close, Rayleigh, Essex.

## ON THIS DAY

NOVEMBER 22 1922

The first scheduled airline flight, according to Air Facts and Facts (Guinness Superlatives) was from London to Paris on August 25, 1919, landing at Paris two and a half hours after take-off in bad weather. The pilot was employed by Air Transport and Travel Ltd, the first British airline company to be registered, in 1916. The national airline, Imperial Airways, was formed on April 1, 1924.

## COMFORT IN AIR TRAVEL

### THE VENTILATION DIFFICULTY.

#### OFFICIAL PAMPHLET. (By Our Aeronautical Correspondent)

All those who have travelled by aeroplane have a story to tell of noise, of frustrated attempts at conversation, and of the smell of dope and petrol. Some can relate disturbing experiences of air-sickness. Others, however, the excitement of travelling in an open machine with the very different sensations received in flying in an enclosed saloon. Still others declare that the sense of security derived from the walls and ceiling of a cabin and a seat in a comfortable lounge chair outweigh all the "uplift" and inspiration that is to be got from facing the fierce, fresh air-stream in an open aeroplane. The differences are the differences that separate ocean travel in a liner and in a destroyer. From the point of view of appreciation they appear to be physical and psychological. The Air Council has discussed these matters and several others, "for the information of all concerned", in an admirable pamphlet entitled "Medical Notes in Connection with Commercial Aircraft".

It is pointed out that an aerial journey to-day, for the unaccustomed passenger, abnormally stimulates all his senses. The abnormal stimuli affect the physiological processes in many ways which are not within the scope of the present memorandum to describe; but in general terms it may be said that they are undesirable and predispose to air-sickness, drumming in the ears, head-ache, and other forms of discomfort complained of by passengers. The problems of passenger air-travel are grouped thus: Ventilation, heating, odours; noise and vibration; sickness in the air; and general comfort.

#### QUESTION OF VENTILATION

The authors of the pamphlet point out that the adequate ventilation of the cabins in commercial aeroplanes presents considerable difficulties. The reasons for this are that the cubic space that can be afforded to each passenger is naturally very limited, and the speed at which the cabin has to be carried through the air is such that even quite small openings or cracks introduce air at a velocity that is appreciated as a draught. The authors are for the introduction of fresh air from above and in the fore part of the cabin. In certain cases, they say, it might be found desirable to extend the inlet inside the saloon in the shape of a gauze trunk along the whole length of the passenger cabin. Some interesting deductions are made from systems in use in sleeping-cars on American railroads.

The heating of heavier-than-air craft is still a matter of experiment, and the system of fitting a high-pressure boiler to the exhaust pipes is recommended for consideration. Discussing noise and vibration and the use of silencers, the authors state that the problems involved are not impossible of solution; it is indeed they are hopeful — but they require much work, and if this is carried out purely from the physical side, without due consideration for the psychology of the individual, errors will creep in. Sickness in the air is here traced to ventilation, the proximity of travellers to windows, the lateral and fore and aft movement of the aeroplane, and "a certain amount of apprehension" — the last is what is usually called stage fright, a symptom commonly known at the front as "wind-up". Certain drugs are suggested as preventives, but the real cure is claimed to lie in an improvement in travelling conditions. Hay-box cookers are recommended for use in the culinary department. All these are matters of first-class importance in tackling the tough problem of making flying pay.

### Phrase or fable?

From Dr Richard West Sir, Your correspondent Mr J. N. Hare (November 7) speculates about the phrase, "Cheer up for Chatham, wooden legs are cheap."

In the nineteenth century artificial legs were in fact rather expensive. In 1862 the Reverend Charles H. Spurgeon offered to preach to raise money for St George's Hospital on condition that a certain patient was fitted with a cork leg.

The offer was accepted and the patient fitted with the leg at a cost of £10. However, it was not paid for. As Mr Spurgeon then said he would only preach if the hospital also met the costs of hiring St James Hall, which the governors were not prepared to do.

I am, Yours sincerely, RICHARD WEST, Dean, St George's Hospital Medical School, Cranmer Terrace, Tooting, SW17, November 8.











# Brian James casts his eye over a conflict of drama, humour and tears

## No heroes in the Theatre of the Snide

Suggesting that Mr Robert Maxwell, the enigmatic publisher long in love with the British Way of Life, had tried to bribe his way to a peerage has cost the satirical magazine *Private Eye* nearly £250,000.

After deliberating for five hours yesterday, working their way through a sort of *Idiot's Guide* to verdict-making provided by Mr Justice Brown (was the article defamatory? If No, proceed to the next article. If Yes, go to...), a jury of six men and six women awarded Mr Maxwell a total of £55,000 in damages for libel. *Private Eye* must also pay all the costs of the 15-day hearing, estimated at £195,000.

Mr Maxwell naturally was jubilant. He would donate the £55,000, he said, to charities for children and also to help combat Aids. He seemed enormously pleased with his follow-up remark: "I'm coming from one infected or another". He repeated this several times.

He also said that he felt the decision would help all those thousands of people, their families and friends, who had "suffered from being targeted by these reckless attacks". He had proved, he said, that *Private Eye* neither "checked its facts, nor had the guts to apologise when it was wrong. They were peddlars of lies and filth". Good knockabout stuff.

Mr Richard Ingrams, the magazine's editor at the time of the article and still its chairman, has shown himself fairly adept at this sort of stuff but was not unaccountably not around to say anything. He was said to be reflecting amid other calmer words in his wife's bookshop along the Thames at Wallingford.

But it was entirely in keeping with the often bizarre atmosphere of this case that the comedian Mr Peter Cook, the leading shareholder of *Eye*, occupied part of the waiting hours giving pressmen two interviews — he couldn't stay to the end, he explained, being off to see his mum, but he could say now what his thoughts would be if his side won. Or again, if they lost. Solemnly, it was all duly noted.



The protagonists: Mr Richard Ingrams, former editor of *Private Eye*, left, and Mr Robert Maxwell, the plaintiff.

For a win, Mr Cook could be reported as being "rather more pleased than Punch". Against a defeat his words could be reported as follows: "We shall now bring out a bumper edition to pay for it... and I don't think we are in any more danger now than we have been for 25 years."

Could the *Eye* stand damages like this, even with one-third of its £1 million-plus income set aside for libel cases? "Of course. But I still don't see what we said wrong."

What *Private Eye* said wrongly, of course, was that Mr Maxwell had paid for several foreign trips for the Labour leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, in the hope it would gain him preference on Labour lists for a peerage.

But the wicked skill in the canard was, of course, that it would have been widely believed. Mr Maxwell, a man who didn't so much try to join the establishment as redesign himself to merge into it, has shown such a love of British institutions (he bought himself a football club, several na-



Maxwell Family Album" — were aimed at his head during the three-week run in Court 11 of this epic production in the Theatre of the Snide.

On many days, it was standing room only and those standing included stars of the legitimate theatre like Mr Cook, and of the media circus like Mr Peter Jay and a horde of scribbles of Fleet Street editors.

There was conflict, the delicious lure of a duelling encounter between two irredeemably unpleasant men. Early on, Mr Maxwell filled the witness box with his bulk and boom, led step by imma-

Who and there he gives his recreation as litigation, some perhaps less intended as when Mr Andrew Bateson QC, for Mr Ingrams, protested at the reading of a long list of previous *Eye* apologies: "This is pure mud-slinging!" Collapse of stout parties.

There were tears when Mr Maxwell spoke about his family having been destroyed by Adolf Eichmann, whose name had been used by the magazine in one of its jibes against the tycoon. And a frown of Wicked Wizard threat when Mr Maxwell's television interview, in which he had vowed to "swat Ingrams like a fly" was quoted.

The theatre, like all great drama, also provided insight. Nothing was more revealing than these two long days when Mr Ingrams stood in the box under assault by Mr Richard Hartley, QC (for Mr Maxwell), who worked through a list of 53 previous apologies published by *Private Eye*.

Mr Hartley rained home the key phrases in the apologies offered after items on Lady Havers ("complete fabrication"), Sir James Goldsmith ("pure invention"), Mr Jocelyn Stevens ("pure invention"), an embassy official, Mr Gordon Kirby ("prayerful defamation... totally false"), Mr Cecil Parkinson ("without slightest foundation").

Cries emanated on the magazine's sources for these discredited stories. Mr Ingrams insisted they came only from respected and authoritative journalists whose word it had never occurred to him to doubt. He then gave a battalion-strength role call of Fleet Street's finest, the 21st Foot and the 1st Buffs, as well as Nigel Dempster, Paul Foot, Peter McKay, Polly Toynbee. A payment of £20 per item was "usual".

The only element lacking from this lurid production of life here was, the jury learned, had been awarded the Military Cross and commissioned in the field. There was laughter — some of it intentional as when Justice Mr Brown, reacting to the plea that Mr Ingrams was tired from his stint in the witness box, drawled: "Oh, but I looked him up in *Who's Who*."

## New body to head anti-Aids campaign

Continued from page 1

All health authorities were being asked to ensure that sexually transmitted disease clinics were given adequate resources to meet the demands of Aids. Allocation of resources to health authorities will take account of the needs of hospitals to treat Aids patients, he said.

MPs were told that no decisions had been taken on proposals for compulsory or voluntary screening. Mr Fowler spoke of the practical difficulties of embarking on large-scale screening of residents or visitors to Britain, and the fear that any element of compulsion might drive people away from seeking advice or help.

He said that the challenge of Aids would last for several generations, probably for the rest of the century, and there should be as much common ground as possible between the political parties.

Later, winding up the debate, Mr Antony Newton, the Minister for Health, disclosed that Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Employment, will on Monday send a booklet to employers telling them that there is no risk involved in day-to-day social contact with Aids carriers, including at the workplace.

Mr Newton said that it was important to avoid a situation in which carriers were treated as lepers, and lost their jobs.

Mr Michael Meacher, the Labour chief spokesman on health, condemned the Government's response so far as being "too little and too late" and said that a minimum adequate budget for countering the spread of Aids should be between £50 million to £100 million.

Mr Meacher said that the Aids problem was this year on the brink of exploding like a lethal timebomb. Faced with a death rate which could rise 70-fold in the next five years, and with costs for nursing Aids victims possibly rising to £300 million, any under-provision for prevention, counselling and research facilities would be "the grossest form of false economy".

## Constable sells for record of £2.6m

By Geraldine Norman  
Sale Room Correspondent

Constable looks like ousting Turner as the most expensive artist of the British school. His "Flatford Lock and Mill" sold for £2,640,000 at Christie's yesterday, setting an auction price record for his work.

Trustees of the Tate Gallery had decided to make an all-out effort to acquire his "Opening of Waterloo Bridge", said to be valued at £4 million.

"Flatford Lock" depicts the home of Constable's father and a stretch of the river Stour where he grew up. It was his first picture commissioned by the Royal Academy and gives promise of his pioneering impressionism.

It was bid for by Agnew's, the Bond Street dealers, who were thought to be acting for Mr David Thomson, son and heir of Lord Thomson of Fleet. His remarkable Constable collection is split between his father's home in Kensington Palace Gardens and Canada.

Agnew's said the picture would be staying in this country. Agnew's is believed to have been acting for Mr Thomson when at Sotheby's on Wednesday it paid £159,500 for a Constable cloud study.

Until this week no Constable painting had made more than £345,600 at auction, and the appearance of two simultaneously has posed a problem for the National Gallery. It led to the sale of Constable's first Academy exhibit for the sake of a more famous work.

"The Opening of Waterloo Bridge" seen from Whitehall Stairs, June 18 1817, measures seven feet and depicts the opening of the Bridge by the Prince Regent. Constable conceived the idea of the picture in the 1820s.

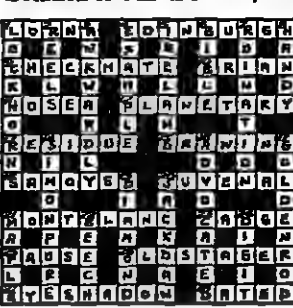
Treated with impressionistic brushwork — it was dubbed "unfinished" by his contemporaries — the high tonality of the painting so impressed Turner on visiting it at the Academy that he added a bright red buoy to the seascape.

## It had been the School Braggart versus the House Sneak



### THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

#### Solution to Puzzle No 17,204



#### Solution to Puzzle No 17,209

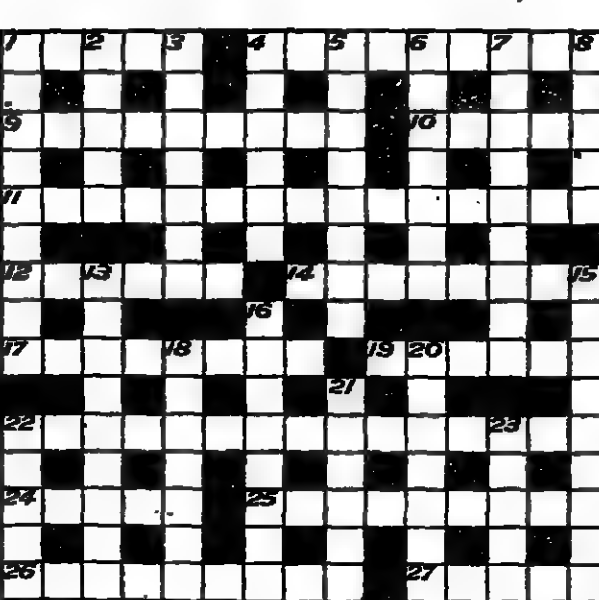


A prize of The Times Atlas of World History will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solutions will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: B Hughes, Nubian Cottage, High Street, Chieveley, nr Newbury, Berks; D Macdonald, Birchdown, Hardenhuish Lane, Chippenham, Wilt; A Limb, 10 Kingsley Close, Croydon, nr Wakefield, West Yorks.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

#### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,210



- ACROSS**
- Exchange blows for a bit (5).
  - Pythia for one set out to divide the mob (9).
  - Michael's place on the Dvina river (9).
  - Derived from a number at frequent intervals (5).
  - Scots many and/or represent the old country (4,3,8).
  - Muslim chief accepts extermination schedule (6).
  - Abstract new cart reversing in the farm (8).
  - Set spied distributed in letters (8).
  - A denial by a literary corporal — an unidentified one (6).
  - City once named after a rock? (5,10).
  - Help to make a curtain, say (5).
  - Ruling odds 1 call stimulating (9).
  - Neat guide to calf? (9).
  - Sounds like a little girl, this supernatural servant (5).
- DOWN**
- Cabinet supports step down
  - signed to make flights secure (9).
  - Strong currents encountered by river champions (5).
  - Bill, the port authority eccentric (7).
  - In which to worship a deity in Pennsylvania? (6).
  - Unhealthy rainy parts of an ancient region (8).
  - Circus proprietor who's new to an island (7).
  - Set down soldiers in harbour (9).
  - Two characters from *22* *th*, or one from *11*? (5).
  - Dispose of bird protected by the best people (9).
  - Fig US politician eager to upset Establishment leaders? (9).
  - See about novice — one in mineworkers' element (8).
  - Gossip makes up story about Reckitt king (7).
  - Someone's tin god making a retreat? (7).
  - Individual appearing in it is all there (6).
  - Guy's remains? (5).
  - Agreement about leaving a French island (5).

Concise crossword, page 17

#### Today's events

**New exhibitions**  
Christmas Lights, Cleveland Gallery, Victoria Rd, Middlesbrough; Tues to Sat 12 to 7 (ends Jan 31).  
Etchings and drawings by Tielke Mori, Dolores Montano and Charles Gaudier, Great Barn Gallery, Partland, Gt Lintford, Milton Keynes; Mon to Sat 10 to 4 and 7 to 10 (ends Dec 13).  
**American cartoons**, Victoria Art Gallery, Bridge Street, Bath; Mon to Sat 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 5 (ends Jan 3).  
**Box of Delights**, Grape Lane Gallery, Low Petergate, York; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Jan 31).  
**Five Years with The Face**, 5th anniversary of The Face magazine; Library Gallery, Guilford Lawn, Ramsgate; Mon to Wed 9.30 to 5. Thurs 9.30 to 5, Fri 9.30 to 8, Sat 9.30 to 5 (ends Dec 23).  
**Looking Into Paintings**, Portraits, Castle Museum, Nottingham; Mon to Sun 10 to 4.45 (ends Jan 1).  
**Christmas exhibition of landscapes**, Sladebrook House, 222 Englishcombe Lane, Bath; Mon to Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6 (ends Dec 7).

**Paintings by Moira McElboom**, Nicol Centre, Brewery Court, Chichester, 10 to 12.30.  
**Rembrandt**, Whitworth Art Gallery, Whitworth Park, Manchester, 10 to 5.  
**Sculptures and drawings by Sokari Douglas Camp**, Midland Keynes Exhibition Gallery, 555 Silbury Boulevard, 10 to 5.

#### Music

**Concert by the Sheffield Bach Society**, Sheffield Cathedral, 7.30.  
**Concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra**, Guildford Cathedral, 7.30.  
**Recital by the Choir of Dunfermline Abbey**, Dunfermline Cathedral, 12.15.  
**Concert by the Choir of Ripon Cathedral**, Ripon Cathedral, 7.30.  
**Concert by the Harrogate Choral Society**, Royal Hall, Harrogate, 7.30.  
**Recital by Geraldine Allen** (clavier) and Gavin Mole (piano), Carlisle Cathedral, 7.45.  
**Concert by the Cambridge Philharmonic Society**, College Chapel, Cambridge, 8.  
**Concert by the Bristol Bach Choir and the Bournemouth Sinfonietta**, Colston Hall, Bristol, 7.30.  
**Concert by Cecilia Singers**, Church of St James the Greater, Leicester, 7.30.  
**Concert by the Chester Music Society Choir and City of Chester Symphony Orchestra**, Chester Cathedral, 7.30.  
**Concert by the Scottish National Orchestra**, City Hall, Glasgow, 7.30.  
**Concert by the Wolverhampton Chamber Orchestra**, Grammar School, Wolverhampton, 7.45.

#### Talks, lectures

A View of craft matters, by Tanya Harrod, Plymouth Arts Centre, Looe St, 2.30.  
P.D. James, leading crime writer, talks about her very successful career, Public Library, Parker Lane, Bury, 3.  
**General**  
Book Fair, Athenaeum Rooms, Bury St Edmunds, 10 to 5.  
Craftworkers Craft Fair, De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill, 10.

#### Tomorrow's events

**Last chance to see**  
Thomas Hornor: 17th century landscape artist, National Museum of Wales, Main Building, Caldey Park, Cardiff, 2.30 to 5.  
18th, 19th and 20th century paintings, Gallery by the Park, West Hill, Gishorn Rd, Barrow, Nelson, 10 to 5.30.  
William Scott: The Scottish Gallery of Modern Art, Belford Road, Edinburgh, 2 to 5.  
Masterpieces of 20th century photography, from the Grubbe Collection, Museum Ludwig, Cologne; Corner House, 70 Oxford St, Manchester, 12 to 8.  
**Music**  
Concert by the Regional Youth Choir and Schools Orchestra, Tait Hall, Kelsa, 7.30.  
Harrogate Organ Enthusiasts, David Hamilton (concert) & Julie Haigh concert, Harrogate Social Welfare Hall, Whitehouse Road, Birston, 7.30.  
**Concert by the Orchestra of St John Smith's Square**, Hexagon, Queen's Walk, Reading, 7.30.  
A recital of traditional music of China with Li Lisha (Chinese lute), Holywell Music Room, Oxford, 8.  
**Concert by the Harmonic Society and Oxford Symphony Orchestra**, Town Hall, Oxford, 8.  
**Recital by Ian Partridge** (tenor) and Jennifer Partridge (piano), Barnfield Theatre, Exeter University, 8.  
**Concert by the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra**, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

#### Anniversaries

**TODAY**  
Births: George Eliot, Chivers Cotton, Warwick, 1819; George Gissing, novelist, Wakefield, Yorks, 1872; Cecil Sharp, founder of the English Folk Dance Society, London, 1859; Jean-Baptiste Marchand, explorer, Thoissey, France, 1863; Agatha Christie, writer, Nobel laureate in 1947, Poole, 1890; Charles de Gaulle, general, president of France 1958-69, Lille, 1890.  
Deaths: Sir Martin Frobisher, navigator, Plymouth, 1594; Robert Clive, Baron Clive (piano), Carlisle Cathedral, 1745.  
Concert by the Cambridge Philharmonic Society, College Chapel, Cambridge, 8.  
Concert by the Bristol Bach Choir and the Bournemouth Sinfonietta, Colston Hall, Bristol, 7.30.  
Concert by Cecilia Singers, Church of St James the Greater, Leicester, 7.30.  
Concert by the Chester Music Society Choir and City of Chester Symphony Orchestra, Chester Cathedral, 7.30.  
Concert by the Scottish National Orchestra, City Hall, Glasgow, 7.30.  
Concert by the Wolverhampton Chamber Orchestra, Grammar School, Wolverhampton, 7.45.

#### TOMORROW

Births: John Wallis, mathematician, Ashford, Kent, 1616; Franklin Pierce, 14th president of the USA 1853-57, Hillsboro, N.H., 1789; Thomas Tallis, London, 1572; L'Abbe Prevost, writer, author of *Manon Lescaut*, Chantilly, 1763; Friedrich von Struve, astronomer, Leningrad, 1804; Andre Malraux, Paris, 1876; Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, playwright, London, 1854.

#### Roads

The Midlands: M1: Contractors between junctions 27 and 28 (near Northfield) expect delays. M5: Two lane closures between junctions 4 and 5 (Bromsgrove/Oxford) and between junctions 4 and 7 (Telford/Cuddesley) expected. M6: Various lane closures affecting both carriageways between junctions 29 and 32 (Cheadle/Donnerley) and between junctions 29 and 32 (Cheadle/Donnerley). A36: Contrail eastbound between Epsom and Lancington approaches, Maresfield, near Chichester, closed. A36: Traffic restrictions and delays at Ashford roundabout between junctions 12 and 13.  
The North: M1: Various lane restrictions and preparation for a contraflow between junctions 29 and 32 (Cheadle/Donnerley) and between junctions 29 and 32 (Cheadle/Donnerley). M6: Various lane closures affecting both carriageways on inner ring road closed just off road closure, and two-way traffic on both carriageways on northbound carriageway.  
The South: M4: Construction work N of junction 10 and 2 p.m. use alternative route via Tarnet or Hemel Hempstead, Dunstable, 18.00. Outside lane of both carriageways on inner ring road closed just off road closure, and two-way traffic on both carriageways on northbound carriageway.

Information supplied by AA

#### Portfolio - Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, the *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 29).

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st
1	+4	+3	+5	+1	+4	+8																									
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21	+3	+4	+4	+4	+2	+4																									
22	+4	+3	+2	+1	+2																										
23	+5	+2	+2	+3	+5																										
24	+6	+3	+5	+5	+5	+5																									
25	+5	+2	+2	+2	+3																										
26	+2	+6	+1	+5	+3																										
27	+3	+4	+4	+4	+3																										
28	+5	+4	+2	+2	+6																										
29	+5	+5	+2	+2	+3																										
30	+6	+1	+1	+1	+1																										
31	+4	+3	+2	+2	+5																										
32	+2	+2	+2	+2	+5																										
33	+5	+2	+1	+3	+2																										
34	+3	+3	+6	+3	+4																										
35	+3	+2	+2	+2	+5																										
36	+3	+2	+3	+2	+3																										
37	+6	+2	+2	+2	+3																										
38	+6	+3	+1	+3	+4																										
39	+3	+4	+6	+2	+4																										
40	+4	+3	+2	+4	+2																										
41	+4	+2	+6	+2	+3																										
42	+5	+5	+2	+4	+5																										
43	+5	+2	+3	+4	+1																										
44	+2	+2	+3	+3	+4																										



Executive Editor  
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share	1274.2 (+14.4)
FT-SE 100	1824.9 (+14.2)
Bargains	34762 (27162)
USM (Datastream)	129.09 (-0.01)

THE POUND

US Dollar	1.4195 (+0.0085)
W German mark	2.8653 (+0.0255)
Trade-weighted	67.9 (+0.3)

### Panel date for Opax

The takeover panel yesterday confirmed there would be a full panel meeting on Monday to consider the appeal by Datafin and the independent directors of McCormacdale against the executive's ruling that Norton Opax had won the bid for McCormacdale.

The panel's executive had ruled that Opax had not been acting in concert with an investment institution - the Kuwait Investment Office - which was a core underwriter to the Opax bid and had been buying McCormacdale shares at prices above the Opax offer.

Prudential-Bache, adviser to Datafin, announced also that it had bought more McCormacdale shares on Thursday to take its stake to 18.9 per cent.

### Geest 30 times subscribed

The offer of shares in Geest was subscribed 30 times, with 110,000 applications received.

Apart from priority applications which are allotted in full, the share allocation is: For 200 to 1,000 shares, a weighted ballot for 200 shares, 1,500 to 2,500 shares, a weighted ballot for 300 shares, 3,000 to 8,000 shares, a weighted ballot for 400 shares, 9,000 to 11,000 shares, 400 shares allocated; 12,000 to 19,000 shares, 500 shares allocated; 20,000 shares and above, about 3.4 per cent of the application up to a maximum of 100,000 shares.

### Rothmans up

Pretax profits at Rothmans International, the cigarette and brewing group, rose from £58.8 million to £73.8 million in the six months to September 30 on turnover down from £744.8 million to £725.5 million. The interim dividend was raised from 2.2p to 2.5p.

Temps, page 27

### Rover tender

The Rover Group is inviting tenders for the purchase of its Llanelli radiators operation, a supplier of radiators, heat exchange equipment and seat frames. Tenders are to be delivered to Hill Samuel by December 12.

### Shanghai rush

Peking (Reuters) - Thousands of Shanghai citizens lined up to buy 27 million yuan (£5 million) worth of bonds on their first day of issue, an official newspaper reported. Queues of more than 1,000 people formed outside bank branches for the bonds, issued to raise capital for an ethylene plant.

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Foreign Exch	26	USM Prices	28
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Comment	27		

### MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS	
New York	Dow Jones 1871.77 (+11.11)
Tel Aviv	Nikkei Dow 17489.58 (+185.02)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng 2273.98 (+28.03)
Amsterdam	AEX 283.0 (+2.3)
Sydney	ASX 1346.1 (+15.2)
Frankfurt	Commerzbank 2013.9 (+25.7)
Brussels	General 3055.37 (+4.98)
Paris	CAC 388.2 (+4.05)
Zurich	SKA Gen 563.10 (+9.50)
London	FT 1274.2 (+14.4)
FT 100	1824.9 (+14.2)
FT 30	1274.2 (+14.4)
FT 100	1824.9 (+14.2)
FT 30	1274.2 (+14.4)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES	
RISE:	
Fothergill & H	241p (+63p)
Pittman Bros	82p (+4p)
Tesco	137p (+11p)
Clifford Dairy	218p (+12p)
Atkins	273p (+12p)
AB Ports	285p (+10p)
Brit & Commonwealth	303p (+10p)
BET	425p (+9p)
Pearson	575p (+8p)
Excel	401p (+18p)
PWS International	305p (+16p)
Land Sec	335p (+11p)
NMC Investments	198p (+14p)
Cons Gold	688p (+12p)
Greenwich Res	157p (+10p)
Steel Bros	848p (+10p)
Corway Pet	512p (+79p)

INTEREST RATES	
London Bank Base	11%
3-month interbank	11 1/4-1 1/2%
3-month eligible bills	10 1/4-1 1/2%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	7 1/4%
Federal Funds	5 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bids	5.35-5.37%
30-year bonds	100 1/2-100 3/4%

CURRENCIES	
London	
\$	1.4195
DM	2.8653
Sfr	2.3828
FF	6.2225
Yen	236.50
Indonesian	1111.5
FCU	20.72544
New York	
\$	1.4200
DM	2.8630
Sfr	2.3820
FF	6.2220
Yen	236.50
Indonesian	1111.5
FCU	20.72544

GOLD	
London Fixing	AM 389.50 pm 389.20
close	389.00-389.50 (£270.75-271.25)
New York	Correx 389.00-389.50

NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent (Jan) pm	\$15.00/bbl (\$15.00)
Data	Denotes latest trading price

## Rooke confident of £5.6 billion company launch

# British Gas to go public at 135p per share

By Teresa Poole, Business Correspondent

British Gas shares were yesterday priced at 135p each, valuing the company at £5.6 billion. By 3pm, underwriting of the share issue had been completed.

Sir Denis Rooke, the chairman, welcomed the start of a new era: "My colleagues and I look forward to the new challenges and we are braced to meet them."

Payment for the shares will be in three instalments with 50p per share payable on application, 45p in June next year and 40p in April 1988.

A spokesman for NM Rothschild, the merchant bank adviser to the sale, said he expected a premium of about 15p on the fully paid price when dealings start on December 8. This would mean a 30 per cent premium on the 50p partly paid shares.

At the 135p offer price, the shares will sell on a forecast gross yield of 6.8 per cent. But for individual shareholders, the phasing of instalments coupled with tax vouchers will mean a return in the first year of 21.6 per cent.

If investors choose bonus shares, these plus the dividend payments will give an effective average return of 11.4 per cent a year for three years.

On the forecast pro forma profits of £884 million for the year to the end of March 1987

— up from £831 million — the price to earnings multiple is 9.7.

"The price has been set to ensure the country receives proper value for a major national asset and to ensure the success of the issue," Mr Anthony Alt of Rothschild, said.

Some City analysts had been looking for a price of 130p and yesterday agreed that a premium of more than 15p was unlikely.

Mr Arthur Hephner, oil analyst at Scrimgeour Vickers, the stockbroker, said: "The price is a touch on the high side but 5p is not crucial either way. The Government wanted the maximum possible."

More than 7.5 million people have inquired about the issue and about 5.5 million British Gas customers have registered for the Customer Share Scheme.

Surveys have revealed that 55 per cent of those interested in buying shares would choose bonus shares rather than vouchers.

The share sale, which the advisers expect to be oversubscribed, has been structured so that there will be no need to ballot applications and all private investors who apply correctly will receive an allocation.

Up to 64 per cent of the shares, worth slightly less than £3.5 billion, will be available to private British shareholders under a claw-back arrangement.

The costs of privatizing British Gas, the largest share offer so far, are likely to emerge at more than £100 million, including £70 million for underwriting and sub-underwriting fees.

Mr Michael Richardson, a managing director of Rothschild, said the underwriting fee was a "quite remarkably low" 0.175 per cent compared with 0.375 per cent in the British Telecom flotation. Sub-underwriters were paid 1.25 per cent.

But the pricing of the issue immediately prompted criticism from opposition parties.

Mr Tony Blair, Labour's Treasury spokesman, said: "Even at this price the shares will be traded at a premium that could cost the British taxpayer £400-£600 million on the first day of trading, or £20-£30 per household in Britain."

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said: "Most of the money to be gained will end up in the pockets of the money men in the City."

The full prospectus for the British Gas share offer will be published in *The Times* on Tuesday and the offer closes at 10am on Wednesday, December 3.



Sir Denis Rooke: 'looking forward to the new challenges'

## Half-time profits treble at NMC

By Lawrence Lever

NMC Investments, the revitalized packaging group in which the Saatchi brothers have a 28.6 per cent stake, yesterday announced that half-year pretax profits had jumped from £223,000 to £759,000.

At the same time the company is buying two packaging companies for a maximum of £25 million. The news sent the share price racing ahead to close at 20p, up 16p.

Last February the Saatchi brothers, Charles and Maurice, purchased 51 per cent of the company along with Mr Norman Gordon, an insurance broker and the current chief executive of NMC, at 16p a share.

The acquisitions announced yesterday will dilute the Saatchi brothers' holdings to about 20 per cent.

Mr Gordon said yesterday that the company aimed to become "a major packaging group concentrating on the service-orientated and high value added sector."

NMC is paying a maximum £14 million for Bux Group, which has net assets of £6.5 million and made profits before tax of £1.76 million in its last financial year.

In addition it is buying the Barker Group of companies for an initial £3.25 million plus a further maximum of £7.75 million depending on profits.

In July this year NMC bought Interplay, a security wrapping company, for £3 million.

## Gatt agrees new rules

Geneva (Reuters) - Twenty nations yesterday agreed to new rules on the award of government contracts to business enterprises, an accord intended to open the field to more international competition, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) said.

The agreement, to be implemented on January 1, 1988, will require signatory nations to post details of contract awards - including the price - within 60 days.

Conditions for awarding recurring contracts will be tightened, while time limits for making bids on tenders will be extended from 30 to 40 days.

Of \$3.5 billion (£2.14b) of procurement awarded yearly by the 20 signatory nations, about \$2.5 billion worth are directly covered by the accord said a spokesman for GATT.

Most of the balance is for defence contracts, he added.

Signatories include Austria, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, France, West Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Finland, United Kingdom on behalf of Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States.

## Dull start for Virgin shares

By Our City Staff

Shares in Mr Richard Branson's Virgin Group made a disappointing market debut yesterday.

Set conservatively at 140p after the tender issue was three times oversubscribed, they hovered at about that price all day and closed at 139 1/2p, denying profits for the stage.

Morgan Grenfell and Warburg Securities, advisers to the issue, were heavy buyers of the shares, although spokesmen at both companies denied that the purchases were part of a price-support operation to prevent the shares slipping to an embarrassing opening day discount.

Mr Roger Seelig, a director of Morgan Grenfell, said: "We were buying for some 20 to 30 institutions. Our securities people had collected buying orders in the face of the normal sales from smaller holders on the first day. But there was no arm-twisting and we did not take any shares on to our own books."

Towards the end of the day his company was bidding for shares at 140p, 1p above any other market-maker.

## LCAH £7.4m rights issue

London and Continental Advertising Holdings' shareholders yesterday narrowly approved a £7.4 million rights issue, which gave a 29.9 per cent stake and management control to Piccadilly House, an investment group.

However, MAI, a rival bidder, said that it was encouraged by soundings taken from independent shareholders and that it would be pressing ahead vigorously with its £28.3 million bid. Its cash offer has been revised to 118p per share, after the 110p rights issue.

## SE rules out a ban on acting for Boesky

By Lawrence Lever

The Stock Exchange yesterday decided against banning its members from dealing for Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced American financier.

Firms are to be allowed to act for Mr Boesky provided they immediately report all deals to the Exchange's surveillance department.

The terms of the Exchange's ruling mirror those of the American Securities Commission which will allow Mr Boesky to continue dealing until April 1988. The Exchange's lawyers have decided that the SEC ruling does not limit Mr Boesky only to deals which wind up his affairs.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for Cambrian and General Securities, the UK investment trust formerly run by Mr Boesky said that the SEC had served a subpoena on the company asking for details of its trades going back to 1978. The board of Cambrian was yesterday locked in a meeting to determine its future.

Laing & Crutchfield, the brokers were reported as acting for 25 per cent of the shareholders in Cambrian and trying to line up US securities houses to buy all or part of its portfolio.

Speculation was mounting in the City that the Department of Trade and Industry has re-opened several cases of suspected insider dealing in the light of information supplied to it by the SEC on the Boesky affair and the DTI's tough new powers to investigate insider dealing.

It is understood that several cases referred within the past three years by the Stock Exchange are being re-examined.

A spokesman for the DTI refused to comment yesterday. However, he confirmed that the new powers to question evidence and take evidence on oath could be used on any old referrals.

Meanwhile, the DTI is becoming increasingly concerned that Mr Collier's lawyers will argue that the publicity means that Mr Collier could not have a fair trial if a charge of insider dealing is brought.

Mr Collier's solicitors have requested the DTI to supply full transcripts of all radio interviews given by Ministers concerning the Collier affair.

The DTI made special arrangements last Sunday to ensure that no officials saw Mr Collier when he was interviewed at the DTI's offices by the two specially-appointed DTI inspectors.

The Government's concern over the potential adverse effects of publicity was highlighted when Mr Paul Channon, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, yesterday refused a request from the Labour MP Mr Robin Cook to give an assurance that Mr Boesky's insider dealing did not extend to the London market.

Mr Channon said that the information was confidential adding that "investigations stand much more chance of being successful if they are conducted in the full glare of publicity."

## Congress attacks deal by the SEC

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Congressmen, angered by reports that Mr Ivan Boesky was allowed to profit last week on information about his own case, said yesterday they would hold hearings in January on the deal he negotiated with the United States government.

The proposed hearings are part of a groundswell of criticism against the Securities and Exchange Commission in political and financial circles.

However, the Treasury secretary, Mr James Baker, said the Administration would review regulation of the securities industry in response to the Boesky scandal.

He said: "The executive branch has an obligation to review this issue given the likelihood that Congress will propose new legislation on insider trading."

However, he said, the Administration itself was not in favour of new legislation.

Mr John Dingell, chairman of the House Committee which has authority over the SEC, said he was angered by reports that the Commission allowed Mr Boesky to sell an estimated \$440 million (£309 million) in shares before he settled his insider trading case.

"The SEC chairman, Mr John Shad, will be hearing from us about this matter," said Mr Dingell, chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

"Why they let this transaction stand is the first question I will ask," said congressman Mr Ron Wyden of Oregon, also a committee member.

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**Fidelity Unit Trust Managers of the Year 1986**

— Money Magazine

## 1,200 jobs to go at Blue Circle

By Alexandra Jackson

Britain's biggest cement manufacturer, Blue Circle Industries, confirmed yesterday that it is to reduce its British workforce by 1,200 during 1987. And there will be more redundancies in 1988.

City observers estimate that total job losses could be more than 2,000. They calculate that this could cost the group at least £20 million in redundancy payments before taking account of associated costs.

The redundancies, covering the whole business, will include employees from manufacturing, distribution and regional offices.

Blue Circle employed 5,940 people in British cement manufacturing at the end of July. The restructuring will reduce the workforce by about 25 per cent over two years. Earlier this year Blue Circle announced plans to reduce the number of its drivers by a third to 600.

The import of cheap cement was one of the reasons given by Blue Circle for the need to restructure its cement operations.

Sir John Milne, its chairman, said: "We genuinely fear imports. There is no doubt that, unless product per employee improves, we shall continue to be vulnerable."

Blue Circle, which produced 7.8 million tonnes of cement last year, enjoys a 58 per cent share of the market. But Sir John pointed out that demand for the British cement industry is static and that the market is increasingly competitive.

He added: "Leaving aside the short-term cost of this programme we will save a minimum of £12 million a year as a result of these initial redundancies."



# Saint-Gobain sale likely to raise £924m

Paris (AP-Dow Jones) — Shares in Saint-Gobain SA, France's state-controlled glass and building materials group, will be sold to the private sector on November 24 at Fr310 (£32.91) a share, the economics ministry announced yesterday.

The Saint-Gobain sale, which launches France's plans to denationalize 65 state-sector concerns over the next five years, will cover 28 million shares, raising almost Fr7.7 billion (£924 million) for the government.

Saint-Gobain has a total 43.9 million shares, some of which are held by state-sector banks, which are expected to sell their stock later to a group of "core" industrial operators. Based on the total number of shares outstanding, a price of Fr310 a share would value the group at almost Fr13.6 billion.

The Fr13.6 billion valuation compares with a minimum price of Fr12 billion set by a state privatization commission for which Saint-Gobain should be sold.

The economics ministry confirmed that 10 per cent of the shares offered in the privatization would be reserved for Saint-Gobain employees. These shares will be sold at a 5 per cent discount, although employees who hold the shares for at least two years will receive a 20 per cent discount.

The ministry said that 5.6 million shares, or 20 per cent

of the total, would be sold on the international market.

The remaining 19.6 million shares would be allotted through a public offering on the Paris bourse from November 24 to December 5.

The terms of this offer guarantee that orders from individuals will be fulfilled in their entirety up to a limit of 10 shares. Orders of more than 10 shares may be partially fulfilled if demand for the shares exceeds supply.

The government plans to give one share to investors who hold 10 shares for a minimum of 18 months.

The government also announced that holders of Saint-Gobain's 8 million non-voting shares would be able to transfer their securities into regular common stock. The terms of this exchange allow holders to buy voting rights for their shares at Fr10 each. Trading in non-voting shares was suspended at Fr307 each on November 3 to avoid undue speculation in their relatively thin market.

Saint-Gobain posted consolidated net income of Fr753 million for 1985 on revenue of Fr7,888 billion. The group expects a net income of about Fr1.3 billion for the 1986 financial year.

The group expects its consolidated revenue for 1986 as a whole to be at least Fr7 billion. For the first nine months of the year, turnover totalled Fr5.8 billion.

# Courtaulds in £28m bid for Fothergill

Courtaulds, the textiles, chemicals and industrial products group, has launched a £28.2 million cash bid for Fothergill & Harvey, which makes advanced materials, coated and uncoated engineering fabrics and electrical insulation.

Courtaulds approached Fothergill last week to try and secure a board recommendation but the Fothergill board made it plain that it wanted to retain its independence.

Fothergill directors yesterday called the bid "opportunistic and completely unacceptable".

Courtaulds is keen to expand its advanced materials division and believes that regrouping into bigger units with greater resources to spend on research and development is the best way to deal with the Swiss, American and French competition.

Advanced materials, which substitute new and mainly fibre-based materials for old materials such as metal, have particular weight-saving applications in areas like aircraft and racing cars.

Fothergill made pretax profits in the six months to June 28 of £1.1 million, a decrease on the previous half year's £1.4 million.

The terms of the offer are 225p cash for each share. Fothergill's shares rose 68p to 246p and Courtaulds 77p to 323 1/2p.

# Nigeria and banks in £1.5bn debt pact

Nigeria has agreed terms with its main creditor banks on a debt rescheduling agreement.

The agreement — to reschedule \$1.5 billion of debt due by the end of 1987 — is to be sent to all Nigeria's creditor banks for approval over the next few days.

Supported by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, the agreement includes new lending of \$320 million. Nigeria's 300 creditor banks will have until December 12 to respond to the steering committee.

The terms of the agreement grant Nigeria a four-year period of grace from April, 1986. Repayments will be over six years from April, 1990 at 1.25

# Blue chips lead share advance

New York (Reuters) — Share prices moved higher in early trading yesterday as the trend towards more fundamentally sound issues, particularly blue chips, continued.

An advance in bond prices provided additional boost to the market.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 7.31 to 1,867.97 at one early stage when the transport indicator was up 2.50 to 829.25 and the utilities average up 0.92 to 208.14.

The 65 stocks average was up 2.76 to 737.65.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500-share index rose 0.89 to 242.94 while the New York Stock Exchange composite index was up 0.49 to 139.51.

Advancing shares were leading declines by a margin of about six-to-five.

Digital Equipment gained 1 1/2 to 101 1/2 and Hewlett-Packard, which announced strong earnings on Thursday, gained 1/4 to 42.

Goodyear, which announced a share buyback on Thursday, fell 1/4 to 42 1/2 in active trading.

Oil futures prices opened lower on the New York Mercantile Exchange yesterday.

The January contract traded at \$15.24 a barrel soon after the opening, eight cents below Thursday.

The February contract was at \$15.35 a barrel, a drop of seven cents on Thursday's close.

# Heath shareholders back Fielding buy

C E Heath shareholders yesterday backed their board and voted for the £71 million acquisition of Fielding Insurance by a majority of almost two to one.

The result meant the automatic lapsing of the contested £173 million offer from PWS Holdings.

During the meeting which was less than an hour, the board was asked to explain the stock market's no confidence vote in the acquisition and why Heath shares had plummeted from

WALL STREET			
Nov 20	Nov 19	Nov 20	Nov 19
AMR	56 1/2	56 1/2	56 1/2
AT&T	52 1/2	52 1/2	52 1/2
Boeing	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2
IBM	111 1/2	111 1/2	111 1/2
Intel	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2
McDonald's	28 1/2	28 1/2	28 1/2
Merck	44 1/2	44 1/2	44 1/2
Microsoft	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2
Motorola	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2
Procter & Gamble	41 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2
Rockwell	51 1/2	51 1/2	51 1/2
Spacelabs	61 1/2	61 1/2	61 1/2
Union Pacific	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2
Wendover	41 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2
Weyerhaeuser	51 1/2	51 1/2	51 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	61 1/2	61 1/2	61 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	71 1/2	71 1/2	71 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	111 1/2	111 1/2	111 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	121 1/2	121 1/2	121 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	131 1/2	131 1/2	131 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	141 1/2	141 1/2	141 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	151 1/2	151 1/2	151 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	161 1/2	161 1/2	161 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	171 1/2	171 1/2	171 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	181 1/2	181 1/2	181 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	191 1/2	191 1/2	191 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	201 1/2	201 1/2	201 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	211 1/2	211 1/2	211 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	221 1/2	221 1/2	221 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	231 1/2	231 1/2	231 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	241 1/2	241 1/2	241 1/2
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Wm. S. Kieser	271 1/2	271 1/2	271 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	281 1/2	281 1/2	281 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	291 1/2	291 1/2	291 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	301 1/2	301 1/2	301 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	311 1/2	311 1/2	311 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	321 1/2	321 1/2	321 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	331 1/2	331 1/2	331 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	341 1/2	341 1/2	341 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	351 1/2	351 1/2	351 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	361 1/2	361 1/2	361 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	371 1/2	371 1/2	371 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	381 1/2	381 1/2	381 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	391 1/2	391 1/2	391 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	401 1/2	401 1/2	401 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	411 1/2	411 1/2	411 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	421 1/2	421 1/2	421 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	431 1/2	431 1/2	431 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	441 1/2	441 1/2	441 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	451 1/2	451 1/2	451 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	461 1/2	461 1/2	461 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	471 1/2	471 1/2	471 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	481 1/2	481 1/2	481 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	491 1/2	491 1/2	491 1/2
Wm. S. Kieser	501 1/2	501 1/2	501 1/2

**BROWN SHIPLEY HOLDINGS:** Interim dividend 3.75p (3.5p).

**AMBRIT INTERNATIONAL:** AMBRIT Development Corporation, a newly formed American subsidiary, has established a joint venture with Blue Ridge Transportation Corp. with each party owning 50 per cent. The partnership will develop a 19 acre waterfront residential property, purchased for \$1,735,000, in Indian River County, on the east coast of Florida. The development should be completed within 18 months. AJ and Blue Ridge have each provided \$350,000 in cash to finance the acquisition, with the balance provided by a Florida bank.

**GUINNESS:** An over-the-counter market is to be created in New York, with each American depositary receipt (ADR) representing two ordinary shares. Mr E. Saunders, Guinness chairman, said the company will begin filing for a listing or quotation after the publication of its 1986 financial statements in April and have its ADRs listed or quoted in the US by late 1987.

**NORTH KALUGRI MINES:** After its A\$61.67 million (£74 million) rights issue, the company says it will be well placed for further expansion. The company is projecting gold production of more than 130,000 ounces in the year to next June (1985-86 93,309 ounces).

**BSS GROUP:** Result of the offer to shareholders in connection with the proposed acquisition of Manor Buildings and Plumbing Supplies: acceptances have been received in respect of 72,066 ordinary shares of 20p each, representing 18 per cent of the 4,021,331 new shares offered to existing shareholders at 230p a share.

**BLACK ARROW GROUP:** Figures for the half year to September 30, compared to previous year's figures: Sales £1,316,525 (£1,239,548). Earnings £77,305 (£69,229). Interest payable £544,370 (£486,038). Income before tax £694,850 (£684,281). Tax £139,017 (£133,875). Earnings per share 5.89p (5.83p).

**CHESHIRE WHOLEFOODS:** Six months to September 30, interim dividend 2.03p. Figures in £000s. Turnover 4,110 (3,195). Pretax profit 402 (280). Earnings per share 5.35p (3.79p).

**THOMAS LOCKER:** Half year to September 30, interim dividend 0.375p (same). Figures in £000s. Turnover 1,424 (1,439). Pretax profit 566 (934). Profit after tax 308 (527). Profit attributable 299 (467). Earnings per share 0.75p (1.17p).

**ARNSON GROUP:** The chairman, Mr A. Arnsen, says in his annual report that Arnsen International, the company's main subsidiary, has strengthened its position.

**JOHN CROWTHER GROUP:** The company has entered into agreements for the acquisition of the fully fashioned knitwear division of Atkins Bros (Hosiery), John Mason and Sons, Stapleford, Leicestershire, and 85 per cent of Robert Michaels Holdings at a total cost of about £7.53 million net.

**FULCRUM INVESTMENT TRUST:** Second interim dividend in lieu of final dividend 3.6p, making 5.8p (5.6p) for the year to October 31. Gross revenue — dividends and interest received — 354,816 (£284,925). Net revenue before tax 271,257 (£198,036).

**WALKER AND STAFF HOLDINGS:** Half year to September 30 (figures in £000s). Turnover 2,669 (£2,539), trading profit 151 (£12), pretax profit 147 (£108). Earnings per share 4.48p (3.04p).

# LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Yr
Dec 86	88.82	88.85	88.80	88.81	18.69
Mar 87	88.74	88.77	88.69	88.71	17.73
Jun 87	88.66	88.69	88.58	88.68	20.98
Sep 87	88.58	88.61	88.51	88.59	14.60
Dec 87	88.50	88.53	88.45	88.47	42
Mar 88	88.42	88.45	88.35	88.41	2
Jun 88	88.34	88.37	88.25	88.35	2
Sep 88	88.26	88.29	88.15	88.27	2
Dec 88	88.18	88.21	88.05	88.19	2
Mar 89	88.10	88.13	87.95	88.11	2
Jun 89	88.02	88.05	87.85	88.03	2
Sep 89	87.94	87.97	87.75	87.95	2
Dec 89	87.86	87.89	87.65	87.87	2
Mar 90	87.78	87.81	87.55	87.79	2
Jun 90	87.70	87.73	87.45	87.71	2
Sep 90	87.62	87.65	87.35	87.63	2
Dec 90	87.54	87.57	87.25	87.55	2
Mar 91	87.46	87.49	87.15	87.47	2
Jun 91	87.38	87.41	87.05	87.39	2
Sep 91	87.30	87.33	86.95	87.31	2
Dec 91	87.22	87.25	86.85	87.23	2
Mar 92	87.14	87.17	86.75	87.15	2
Jun 92	87.06	87.09	86.65	87.07	2
Sep 92	86.98	87.01	86.55	86.99	2
Dec 92	86.90	86.93	86.45	86.91	2
Mar 93	86.82	86.85	86.35	86.83	2
Jun 93	86.74	86.77	86.25	86.75	2
Sep 93	86.66	86.69	86.15	86.67	2
Dec 93	86.58	86.61	86.05	86.59	2
Mar 94	86.50	86.53	85.95	86.51	2
Jun 94	86.42	86.45	85.85	86.43	2
Sep 94	86.34	86.37	85.75	86.35	2
Dec 94	86.26	86.29	85.65	86.27	2
Mar 95	86.18	86.21	85.55	86.19	2
Jun 95	86.10	86.13	85.45	86.11	2
Sep 95	86.02	86.05	85.35	86.03	2
Dec 95	85.94	85.97	85.25	85.95	2
Mar 96	85.86	85.89	85.15	85.87	2
Jun 96	85.78	85.81	85.05	85.79	2
Sep 96	85.70	85.73	84.95	85.71	2
Dec 96	85.62	85.65	84.85	85.63	2
Mar 97	85.54	85.57	84.75	85.55	2
Jun 97	85.46	85.49	84.65	85.47	2
Sep 97	85.38	85.41	84.55	85.39	2
Dec 97	85.30	85.33	84.45	85.31	2
Mar 98	85.22	85.25	84.35	85.23	2
Jun 98	85.14	85.17	84.25	85.15	2
Sep 98	85.06	85.09	84.15	85.07	2
Dec 98	84.98	85.01	84.05	84.99	2
Mar 99	84.90	84.93	83.95	84.91	2
Jun 99	84.82	84.85	83.85	84.83	2
Sep 99	84.74	84.77	83.75	84.75	2
Dec 99	84.66	84.69	83.65	84.67	2
Mar 00	84.58	84.61	83.55	84.59	2
Jun 00	84.50	84.53	83.45	84.51	2
Sep 00	84.42	84.45	83.35	84.43	2
Dec 00	84.34	84.37	83.25	84.35	2
Mar 01	84.26	84.29	83.15	84.27	2
Jun 01	84.18	84.21	83.05	84.19	2
Sep 01	84.10	84.13	82.95	84.11	2
Dec 01	84.02	84.05	82.85	84.03	2
Mar 02	83.94	83.97	82.75	83.95	2
Jun 02	83.86	83.89	82.65	83.87	2
Sep 02	83.78	83.81	82.55	83.79	2
Dec 02	83.70	83.73	82.45	83.71	2
Mar 03	83.62	83.65	82.35	83.63	2
Jun 03	83.54	83.57	82.25	83.55	2
Sep 03	83.46	83.49	82.15	83.47	2
Dec 03	83.38	83.41	82.05	83.39	2
Mar 04	83.30	83.33	81.95	83.31	2
Jun 04	83.22	83.25	81.85	83.23	2
Sep 04	83.14	83.17	81.75	83.15	2
Dec 04	83.06	83.09	81.65	83.07	2
Mar 05	82.98	83.01	81.55	82.99	2
Jun 05	82.90	82.93	81.45	82.91	2
Sep 05	82.82	82.85	81.35	82.83	2
Dec 05	82.74	82.77	81.25	82.75	2
Mar 06	82.66	82.69	81.15	82.67	2
Jun 06	82.58	82.61	81.05	82.59	2
Sep 06	82.50	82.53	80.95	82.51	2
Dec 06	82.42	82.45	80.85	82.43	2
Mar 07	82.34	82.37	80.75	82.35	2
Jun 07	82.26	82.29	80.65	82.27	2
Sep 07	82.18	82.21	80.55	82.19	2
Dec 07	82.10	82.13	80.45	82.11	2
Mar 08	82.02	82.05	80.35	82.03	2
Jun 08	81.94	81.97	80.25	81.95	2
Sep 08	81.86	81.89	80.15	81.87	2
Dec 08	81.78	81.81	80.05	81.79	2
Mar 09	81.70	81.73	79.95	81.71	2
Jun 09	81.62	81.65	79.85	81.63	2
Sep 09	81.54	81.57	79.75	81.55	2
Dec 09	81.46	81.49	79.65	81.47	2
Mar 10	81.38	81.41	79.55	81.39	2
Jun 10	81.30	81.33	79.45	81.31	2
Sep 10	81.22	81.25	79.35	81.23	2
Dec 10	81.14	81.17	79.25	81.15	2
Mar 11	81.06	81.09	79.15	81.07	2
Jun 11	80.98	81.01	79.05	80.99	2
Sep 11	80.90	80.93	78.95	80.91	2
Dec 11	80.82	80.85	78.85	80.83	2
Mar 12	80.74	80.77	78.75	80.75	2
Jun 12	80.66	80.69	78.65	80.67	2
Sep 12	80.58	80.61	78.55	80.59	2
Dec 12	80.50	80.53	78.45	80.51	2
Mar 13	80.42	80.45	78.35	80.43	2
Jun 13	80.34	80.37	78.25	80.35	2
Sep 13	80.26	80.29	78.15	80.27	2
Dec 13	80.18	80.21	78.05	80.19	2
Mar 14	80.10	80.13	77.95	80.11	2
Jun 14	80.02	80.05	77.85	80.03	2
Sep 14	79.94	79.97	77.75	79.95	2
Dec 14	79.86	79.89	77.65	79.87	2
Mar 15	79.78	79.81	77.55	79.79	2
Jun 15	79.70	79.73	77.45	79.71	2
Sep 15	79.62	79.65	77.35	79.63	2
Dec 15	79.54	79.57	77.25	79.55	2
Mar 16	79.46	79.49	77.15	79.47	2
Jun 16	79.38	79.41	77.05	79.39	2
Sep 16	79.30	79.33	76.95	79.31	2
Dec 16	79.22	79.25	76.85	79.23	2
Mar 17	79.14	79.17	76.75	79.15	2
Jun 17	79.06	79.09	76.65	79.07	2
Sep 17	78.98	79.01	76.55	78.99	2
Dec 17	78.90	78.93	76.45	78.91	2
Mar 18	78.82	78.85	76.35	78.83	2
Jun 18	78.74	78.77	76.25	78.75	2
Sep 18	78.66	78.69	76.15	78.67	2
Dec 18	78.58	78.61	76.05	78.59	2
Mar					

## MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates %  
Clearing Series 11  
Finance House 11

### Discount Market Loans %

Over 12 months 10% Low 10  
Week fixed: 10

### Treasury Bills (Discount %)

Buying 10% Selling 10%

3 month 10% 3 month 10%

6 month 10% 6 month 10%

9 month 10% 9 month 10%

12 month 10% 12 month 10%

15 month 10% 15 month 10%

18 month 10% 18 month 10%

21 month 10% 21 month 10%

24 month 10% 24 month 10%

27 month 10% 27 month 10%

30 month 10% 30 month 10%

33 month 10% 33 month 10%

36 month 10% 36 month 10%

39 month 10% 39 month 10%

42 month 10% 42 month 10%

## EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Dollar 3 month 5% 3 month 5%

Over 12 months 10% Low 10

Week fixed: 10 6 month 5% 6 month 5%

9 month 5% 9 month 5%

12 month 5% 12 month 5%

15 month 5% 15 month 5%

18 month 5% 18 month 5%

21 month 5% 21 month 5%

24 month 5% 24 month 5%

27 month 5% 27 month 5%

30 month 5% 30 month 5%

33 month 5% 33 month 5%

36 month 5% 36 month 5%

39 month 5% 39 month 5%

42 month 5% 42 month 5%

45 month 5% 45 month 5%

48 month 5% 48 month 5%

51 month 5% 51 month 5%

54 month 5% 54 month 5%

57 month 5% 57 month 5%

60 month 5% 60 month 5%



STOCK MARKET REPORT

# Hopes of merger with UB boost Cadbury Schweppes

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard

Dealers were feasting themselves yesterday on the growing prospect of an agreed merger between two of Britain's biggest food manufacturers.

There is talk that Cadbury Schweppes, the confectionery, soft drinks and food group, is thinking of getting together with United Biscuits and McVitie and Crawford's cream-cracker fame. Both companies are being continually tipped as potential takeover targets and earlier this year United tried unsuccessfully to merge with Imperial Group before Imps was swallowed up by Hanson Trust in a £2.6 billion bitterly contested takeover battle.

The possibility of a merger between the two companies has been mooted before, but speculation increased sharply yesterday as Cadbury Schweppes jumped 6p to 180p as almost 10 million shares changed hands. United finished the day 1p firmer at 235p.

A merger between both companies would be seen in the City as a purely defensive move designed to deter unwanted predators. Sir Hector Laing, chairman of United, would put up fierce resistance to any unwanted approach. But he may content himself with Cadbury which would result in a new food and soft drinks group valued at £2 billion.

Dealers are already

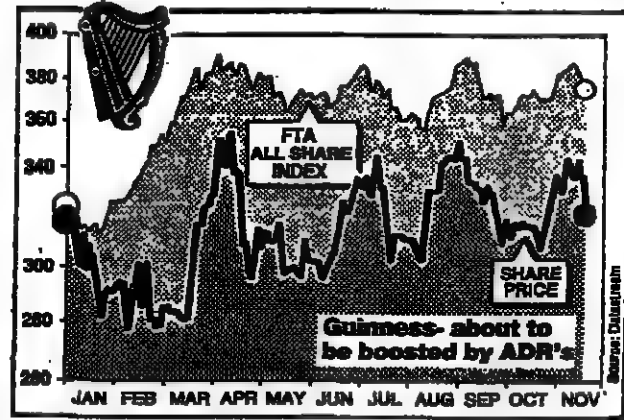
speculating about a possible cross-holding being built up by both sides as the prelude to a merger.

Bid fever dominated the rest of the equity market with a number of the old favourites back in demand. Some new twists in existing struggles were also evident. Mr Robert Maxwell, publisher of the *Daily Mirror*, continued to dictate the pace of the battle for control of AE by increasing the cash offer of his bid for AE to 280p. That compares with the 271p being offered by Turner & Newall. But the news came to late to affect the AE share price which closed 1p firmer at 267p.

The market was further encouraged by the rise on Wall Street, which was showing gains of almost 12 points by

● There are signs of recovery in Woolworth, 3p up at 648p and still underpinned by the near 5 per cent stake held by Dixons. The group has met a number of bankers and good news may be in the pipeline. Dixons paid about 67p for its stake and another bid is not ruled out.

mid-morning. It caused a surge in new-time buying for next week's new account and by the close the FT 30-share index was at its highest level of the day, up 14.4 at 1274.2. But it has nevertheless fallen 43



points during the course of a volatile account. The broader based FT-SE 100 index followed a similar pattern and closed 14.2 points higher at 1624.9.

Among blue chips Hanson Trust, which again had one of the highest volumes of the day at 6.2 million, firmed 2p to 197p, ICI 5p to 1054p, Glaxo 10p to 910p and Lacs 10p to 453p.

The renewed mood of optimism failed to rub off on Virgin, the record and pop music empire of Mr Richard Branson, which began dealing yesterday. Despite heavy buying by its advisers, Morgan Grenfell and Rowe & Pitman, in what was said to be an attempt to support the price, the shares touched 137p, a 3p discount to the 140p striking price before returning to 140p by the close. A shortage of institutional interest in the stock was blamed.

weeks because of the introduction of an ADR facility in New York. Although official dealings in ADRs will not begin until next summer, at the earliest, its sponsor, First Boston Credit Suisse, the American finance house, started making an over-the-counter market in them on Thursday.

"It is known as a pink sheet," says Mr Daniel Leaf, leading brewing and leisure analyst at Wood Mackenzie, the broker, "and it means that the stock is now more accessible to American institutions."

Guinness unveils its year-end figures on December 10 and Wood Mackenzie is looking for profits of £235 million, putting the stock on a p/e of just under 12. Its 1987 forecast of £462 million had been ahead of the field but most other brokers are now raising their forecasts to that level.

Elsewhere among breweries Vaux, the independent brewer based in Sunderland, leapt 21p to 444p as new-time speculators rushed into the stock amid talk of a bid during the next account. There has been persistent talk over the past couple of weeks that Wolverhampton & Dudley and Pleasurama might launch a joint assault. Wolverhampton taking the brewing business, and Pleasurama the hotels.

"It's a sitting target," commented one market man. "Unlike most small regional breweries there are no family blocking stakes and no two-tier voting structure."

Brokers estimate that it could have a take-out price of up to 600p a share.

Bass improved 12p to 740p, Morlaix 10p to 375p and Grand Metropolitan, where there is still talk of a possible consortium bid, climbed 11p to 454p, with 3.4 million shares going through the market.

Kennedy Brookes, the Wheelers to Mario & Franco restaurant group, dipped 2p to 291p after announcing its 6.43 per cent stake in Goldsmiths, the jewellery, hotels and insurance group. The move, by Kennedy Brookes, is being interpreted by the market as a defensive one, with Brookes itself surrounded by speculation that it might soon be a takeover target. It could have good cause to feel concerned — one buyer picked up a line of 500,000 shares yesterday.

Devesh, the West Country brewer, has been mentioned as a possible predator. Goldsmiths shares went up 18p to 252p.

COMMENT

## Sid will be delighted to receive the news

At last it can be told. The distinctly un-ubiquitous Sid must surely have been deliberately incommunicado while enjoying a quiet celebration in advance of the British Gas share sale.

For Sid and millions like him, the terms announced yesterday look mouth-watering. Small investors being offered either bonus shares or gas vouchers will see some highly attractive short-term returns on their initial down payment of 50p a share.

The arithmetic is probably beyond the capability of Sid, even armed with a pocket calculator. But ascribing a cash value to the £10 gas bill vouchers, taking account of the fact that the shares are paid for in easy instalments and that a dividend is payable within 12 months, the first year's return to someone buying 400 shares represents 21 per cent gross.

Doing similar sums, those opting for the alternative share bonus after three years will see an 11 per cent rate of return, assuming that dividends and share price remain unchanged.

It will come as no great surprise that the mechanics of the sale have been devised so that there is every chance of a worthwhile premium.

Given all the hype, the issue could be subscribed a couple of times over. A twice subscribed issue would leave long-term holders of Gas shares very much short of their ideal portfolio weightings when first dealings commence.

Some 20 per cent of the issue has been allocated for overseas investors, and half the remainder earmarked for the small private investor and half for the institutions. Yet if the issue is oversubscribed, there will be a claw-back in favour of the small man. Sid and his chums could wind up with as much as 64 per cent of the issue.

Barring a market collapse, private investors look to be in as close to a no-loss position as it is possible to be. For, if the stock opens quietly, professionals will move in; first to make up their appropriate portfolio weighting, secondly to switch while Gas shares look attractive to other energy sector investments such as Shell and BP.

On current analysts' forecasts, Shell sells for a prospective yield in the 6 per cent region while BP sports a higher anticipated return of around 7.2 per cent. British Gas, on the 135p fully paid price, will yield 6.8 per cent. Yet there is a quality argument which says that Gas could justify a yield closer to Shell's since its profits are far less vulnerable to a short-term decline in the oil price.

At this stage then, it would be fair to guess that professionals will be buyers of British Gas shares at anything up to 145p to 150p. That should be seen as a floor level for the shares in their fully paid form.

As with the TSB issue, there is every possibility of over-enthusiasm taking the price beyond that level. Again like the TSB, private shareholders will be trading among themselves until the shares come back to the point where institutions move in. TSB touched 99p in first dealings and they have now returned to a much more reasonable 77p.

For those who are attracted by the loyalty bonus of one free share for every 10 held, such short-term considerations are of marginal interest. But in the longer term, British Gas looks capable of performing reasonably well. There is a substantial one-off boost to profits next year in prospect due to a lagged response to lower oil and gas prices.

British Gas agrees prices with its suppliers based on prices averaged over a historic period so that the benefits of cheaper oil come through slowly. Most analysts reckon that on both historic cost and current cost accounting bases, profits can average growth of 20 per cent up to 1990. So if Sid takes the long view, he should find the exercise worthwhile. If he is speculative, he could make a 25 per cent turn on the partly paid price. As he might have said himself, not a bad little earner.

### Own up on asbestos

There is a strong feeling *déjà-vu* about Turner & Newall's reluctance to go into details of its current exposure to asbestos-related legal actions or indeed to make any provisions in last year's accounts for any future claims which might arise.

Followers of the demise of the giant Manville Corporation will recall that it too was remarkably unspecific about the extent of its own exposure a few years ago. Since then Manville has filed for re-organization under Chapter 11 of the US Federal Bankruptcy code, which allows insolvent companies to continue trading while they devise a plan to pay off their creditors.

In its 1981 annual report, Manville said it had substantial defences to asbestos actions brought against it.

In September this year though, Manville clarified the position. It reckoned it would be paying more than \$2.5 billion (£1.74 billion) into a trust for victims over the next 25 years. T & N says its problems are nothing like so bad and Manville's US business was vastly bigger than T & N's. Yet the refusal to tell AE shareholders about likely exposure to the inevitable future claims must be a factor when they consider whether to accept T & N's bid terms.

John Bell  
City Editor

ALPHA STOCKS

These prices are as at 6.45pm

1986 High Low Company	Price	Diff	1986 High Low Company	Price	Diff
353 353 Allied-Lyons	308 318	+3	185 185 ASDA-MR	150 154	+4
174 174 ASDA-MR	150 154	+4	483 483 BTR	325 330	+5
483 483 BTR	325 330	+5	481 481 BAT	435 440	+5
481 481 BAT	435 440	+5	571 571 Barclays	465 475	+10
571 571 Barclays	465 475	+10	840 840 Bear	735 747	+12
840 840 Bear	735 747	+12	450 450 Becham	422 427	+5
450 450 Becham	422 427	+5	726 726 Blue Circle	642 647	+5
726 726 Blue Circle	642 647	+5	385 385 BOC	351 354	+3
385 385 BOC	351 354	+3	170 170 Boots	825 830	+5
170 170 Boots	825 830	+5	308 308 Br Aerospace	485 490	+5
308 308 Br Aerospace	485 490	+5	709 709 Br Petroleum	480 485	+5
709 709 Br Petroleum	480 485	+5	280 280 BT Telecom	180 185	+5
280 280 BT Telecom	180 185	+5	182 182 Brit	135 140	+5
182 182 Brit	135 140	+5	354 354 Burton	285 292	+7
354 354 Burton	285 292	+7	380 380 Cable & Wireless	318 325	+7
380 380 Cable & Wireless	318 325	+7	190 190 Cadbury Schweppes	179 182	+3
190 190 Cadbury Schweppes	179 182	+3	338 338 Cam Union	259 262	+3
338 338 Cam Union	259 262	+3	704 704 Carlsberg	565 572	+7
704 704 Carlsberg	565 572	+7	357 357 Courtauld	354 357	+3
357 357 Courtauld	354 357	+3	438 438 Dinos Dip	322 325	+3
438 438 Dinos Dip	322 325	+3	650 650 Epsom	325 328	+3
650 650 Epsom	325 328	+3	354 354 Gas Milk	305 310	+5
354 354 Gas Milk	305 310	+5	128 128 GEC	178 182	+4
128 128 GEC	178 182	+4	117 117 Glaxo	905 915	+10
117 117 Glaxo	905 915	+10	482 482 Grand Met	450 455	+5
482 482 Grand Met	450 455	+5	117 117 GUS 'A'	140 145	+5
117 117 GUS 'A'	140 145	+5	384 384 IRI	780 787	+7
384 384 IRI	780 787	+7	585 585 OGN	595 591	-4
585 585 OGN	595 591	-4	355 355 Orléans	322 327	+5
355 355 Orléans	322 327	+5	215 215 Hanson	180 185	+5

## Imry close to bid agreement

By Judith Huntley  
Commercial Property Correspondent

Imry Property Holdings, the company controlled by Mr Arnold Lee, his family interests and the directors, is believed to be close to settling an agreed bid for the company, thought to emanate from a private property company.

Imry first announced that bid talks were under way in July and the market has been waiting for the details.

Mr Arnold Lee, Imry's chairman, said yesterday: "We are very far advanced with our talks but there are still some matters to be settled. The price has been agreed."

Imry's last stated net asset value was 402p per share and its property portfolio was put at £93.3 million.

The company saw rental income rise but pretax profits fell slightly to £1.31 million because of the refurbishment of the former Turfiff building on the Great West Road, west London, now let to Wang, the computer company. Imry has developments in the United States as well as in Britain.

## B & C alters bid terms for Steel Brothers

British & Commonwealth Shipping, the transport and finance group, has made its offer for Steel Brothers a cash bid, with a share alternative rather than the other way round.

The change comes after B & C bought 1.4 per cent of Steel, which specialises in catering and fine quarrying, for 630p cash. A similar cash offer is available for all of Steel.

The alternative is two B & C shares for each Steel share.

● RIVLIN: The company has completed the sale of its Penarth Road, Cardiff, property to the existing tenant, the Co-operative Retail Services, for £1.65 million. It has also completed the sale of its Theory property in France for £1.076 million to Finance Investment Co.

## TEMPUS

### Rothmans coming out of rationalization smoke

Rothmans International appears to be emerging from a smoke of rationalization costs. Almost £80 million was taken above the line in the past two years as cigarette operations, particularly in West Germany and Britain, were ruthlessly pared in the face of declining markets.

Rothmans operations are now on a rising trend for the first time in three years, with pretax profits up by 12.5 per cent to £73.8 million in the six months to September 30. Cigarette profits rose in continental Europe despite lower volumes and were also higher in the Far East, although the stronger pound cancelled out this advance.

Prospects also look considerably brighter in Canada, where a fierce cigarette price war appears to be over and a merger of operations with Philip Morris awaits government approval.

The other leading Canadian price-cutting victim — brewer Carling O'Keefe — is also making a strong recovery after an almost total collapse of profits last year. The luxury goods associates — Dunhill and Cartier — continue to go from strength to strength with a 23 per cent rise in operating profits in the first half.

As a recovery stock, Rothmans still appears to have further to go. Mr Nyrus Scott-Madden, analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, yesterday raised his full-year pretax profits estimate from £150 million to £160 million, before any further rationalization costs that may result from the Canadian tobacco merger. That forecast puts the shares, up 84p to 165p, on a very reasonable p/e ratio of 7.5 with a 6 per cent plus yield to boot.

### Arbitrage

Hands up those who know the difference between risk, market or classic arbitrage? Given that Mr Ivan Boesky, "king of the arbs", is now in disgrace, many would consider that all types of arbitrage are shady.

In Britain, what used to be practised in the name of



Blue Circle was buying and selling South African gold mine shares, quoted on both the Johannesburg and London Stock exchanges.

The idea was to take advantage of price discrepancies between the two different markets, with the sale and purchase often taking place simultaneously, thereby locking in the discrepancy. For ease of reference this can be called classic arbitrage.

Risk or market arbitrage are generally the same thing. They reflect the fact that arbitrage now encompasses taking advantage of price discrepancies in related stocks quoted in the same market, often in a takeover situation. Options are heavily used in support to hedge risk and maximize returns.

The common characteristic which distinguishes arbitrage from pure speculation is that it is a closed transaction. Not necessarily risk-free, it differs from pure speculation in that no leg is left in the air.

Insider dealing is not arbitrage. Nor is "greenmailing" — taking a stake in a company and threatening the board into the hands of a white knight, hence increasing the value of the stake. Greenmail rather than blackmail because it is backed by dollars.

At the moment it would be impossible for anyone to raise money for an arbitrage fund as James Capel and Banque Paribas did in June, when they gathered £100 million for their Paribas Concord Trust.

If you're about to invest in a pension plan make sure it's the best on the market.

Value of Pension Fund over 10 years to 1st April 1986.  
Source: Money Management, August 1986  
Assumes 120 monthly premiums of £100 Amount Invested (Allowing for tax relief at 30%)

<p>● Target soars head and shoulders above all rivals in the pensions field ●</p> <p>The Times, Saturday 28th January 1986.</p> <p>If you're self-employed or the director of a private company, you'll know all about the tax advantages of investing in a pension plan. Your biggest problem will be selecting the best from the rest. Obviously, the most important factor will be the size of your pension fund when you eventually retire.</p>	<p>● Indeed the best performing contract in the survey was linked to Target's Managed Fund ●</p> <p>The Daily Telegraph, Saturday 31st December 1985.</p> <p>All too often, this decision is taken as a result of comparing projected growth figures, whereas the only realistic basis for comparison is achieved growth. The table above compares the actual results of an investment in the Target Personal Pension Plan — linked to the Target Managed Fund — with two leading with profits policies and three other unit linked plans invested in managed funds.</p>	<p>● Prize for the most outstanding performance of the decade must still go to Target Managed ●</p> <p>Money Magazine, February 1986.</p> <p>And, with Target you're not committed to keeping up a regular payment. You may vary the level of your investment to suit your personal circumstances. Except, of course, with a growth record like ours, we think you'll want to invest more rather than less. To find out more, fill out and return the Freepost coupon below, or phone 0296 384000 and ask for the Client Services Department.</p>
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Close	Close	Sep 87	-----
108.00	108.10	Vol 810	
110.10	110.20	Open 110.10	







Edited by Peter Gartland

## It's a bargain — so don't spoil the share form

Yesterday was so-called Impact Day for British Gas, the day when 7.5 million other investors found out that shares in the biggest UK share flotation would be priced at 135p — 15p below the maximum of 150p that the Government's financial advisers had talked about when the Gas Pathfinder Prospectus was published three weeks ago.

At 135p a share and just over four billion shares on offer, the initial market capitalization will be £2.6 billion.

It was shrewd investor psychology on Mr Thatcher's part to turn an equivalent offer into an unmissable bargain. The arithmetic works out in such a way that on the basis of payment by instalments, a dividend forecast of 5.63p per share and the gross yield works its way up to a highly attractive 21.6 per cent, based on the flotation price.

By this morning a million of the 7.5 million prospectuses requested by members of the public should be dropping through letterboxes all over Britain. Delivery of the remaining 6.5 million should be completed by the middle of next week.

And, if you think the British Gas media blitz is over, you're wrong. Next Tuesday the full prospectus will be published in various newspapers, including The Times. The prospectus will also be available in clearing bank branches and post offices from Tuesday.

When you are filling out the prospectus keep firmly in mind the most common mistakes that people make and avoid them yourself. Do remember to sign the cheque and the application form and do not attempt more than one application per person. The authorities could get very nasty if you do. You have until 10am on December 3 to get your application in.

One final thought illustrates the huge scale of this operation. Some bright spark in the British Gas share information Office has worked out that if all the prospectuses were laid end to end they would stretch from New York almost to Los Angeles.

PG

Credit for pioneering work where it's due.

In his 1986 Budget statement on March 18, Nigel Lawson announced a new concept in individual investment — the Personal Equity Plan.

In the morning papers on March 20, Fidelity Investment Services was not only advertising its intention to offer a PEP but inviting people to write in for further details.

At that stage Fidelity, along with the rest of the financial community, would not have been able to tell you the difference between a PEP and a tin of dog food but its enterprising spirit has clearly paid off. In the past 10 days alone, since moving its marketing activity into top gear, Fidelity has had 18,000 PEP inquiries from the public, reports the managing director, Barry Bateman.

Eight months on from the conception of PEPs, Fidelity's initial enthusiasm is beginning to be mirrored by its competitors, several of whom displayed reluctance to embrace the PEP's charms.

That early resistance among City institutions was based on several factors. First, they said, the entire concept was only a half-hearted attempt to popularize capitalism because, unlike the *Loi Monory* system in France, Loi Lawson gave no tax breaks to investors at the pay-in end of the investment chain. Secondly, because the Chancellor wanted investors to have direct exposure to share investment, there was to be no place for unit trusts. This total exclusion zone has now been modified.

The institutions also argued that PEPs would be horrendously expensive for them to administer. In short, they gave the definite impression of wanting the whole thing to go away.

The mood now has changed. Fears remain about the cost of servicing PEPs and the feeling still exists that tax breaks at the outset would have turned the concept into something really worthwhile.

Nevertheless, progress on costs has been made. Most significant of all in this respect is that it is a PEP requirement that a copy of the annual report and accounts of every company invested in must be sent to the individual investor.

Both Fidelity and Save & Prosper report agreement with a number of large companies that those companies themselves will bear the distribution cost of annual reports. There is satisfaction, too, that a role has been found for unit trusts. In S&P's case, the marketing director Paul Bateman (no relation to his Fidelity namesake) confirmed that his company's PEPs unit

trust option will allow access to all S&P's 28 unit trusts.

Most important of all is the grudging acceptance among some institutions that if they do not get in on the ground floor, maybe having to treat PEPs as a loss leader in the early stages, they may have to pay a high price to get in at a later stage. The fact that muscular organizations such as the Prudential and Schroder have signalled their intentions without, as yet, colouring in the detail lends considerable weight to this view.

A Personal Equity Plan is a scheme whereby from January 1 everyone aged 18 and over will be able to invest up to £2,400 a year (or £200 a month) in a PEP.

Reinvestment without tax

The money you put in will be invested in ordinary shares of UK companies listed on the Stock Exchange. USM company shares, and unit and investment trusts up to 25 per cent of the total amount invested.

Provided the PEP investment is held for a minimum of between 12 months and two years, any capital gains and reinvested dividends will be entirely free of tax and will continue to be so for as long as

the investor keeps his PEP. Clearly, the longer the investment runs the more the tax relief will build up. If the investor pulls out before the minimum period has elapsed, he will lose the tax relief and any capital gain and dividend income will be taxed in the usual way.

Although the scheme is open to all adults, the Chancellor is on record as saying that it is specially designed to encourage smaller savers, and particularly those who may never previously have invested in equities.

Plans will operate on a calendar year basis. An investment will be treated as having entered a plan in the calendar year in which it is first used to buy shares. To qualify for the tax exemptions, it must then remain within the plan for the whole of the next calendar year.

If an investment is made on December 1, 1987, and used to buy shares on the same day, it forms part of the investor's permitted allocation of £2,400 for 1987. The investment must be retained within the plan throughout the following calendar year 1988, and the earliest it can be realised without the loss of tax exemption will be January 1, 1989.

The investment will be handled by an authorized PEP manager who may be, for example, a stockbroker, a bank or a fund management group. But the investor himself will own the shares and all the rights, including voting rights. It will be up to the investor to choose whether to make the investment decisions himself or to give the plan manager authority to act for him.

Plan managers will buy, sell and hold investments and deal with the Inland Revenue, including making the necessary claims for tax relief. More than 100 firms have so far applied to be plan managers, a level of interest which clearly delighted Mr Lawson when he chided those who "couldn't wait to predict that this initiative would never get off the ground".

With more than 100 firms signalling their intentions in this way and only a handful of them made public so far, it looks as if December will be deluge month for PEPs.

Apart from Fidelity and S&P, among the main plans

that have been made public are those from Hill Samuel, F&S Assurance, stockbrokers Sheppard & Chase and Charles Stanley, and the four big clearers, Barclays, Lloyds, Midland and National Westminster.

There are several scheme permutations, brand names and charging structures, and although they all naturally enthrall about their own

investment performance there is little doubt that at the start of the PEP era, financial advisers will steer clients into PEPs contracts as much on the basis of efficient administration as investment potential.

John Greener, of Richards Longstaffe, says he will write to his 10,000 clients in mid-December with one firm PEP recommendation for 1987, and one only. Mr Greener reckons that on the basis of a national 100 points out of which he will "mark" PEPs, marks out of 40 will be given according to reliable administration.

In the long term, of course, investors and their advisers will be content to live with mediocre administration provided the investment goodies live up to their promise.

The envy of its competitors

The front runner on both scores must be Fidelity. Its unit trust performance has consistently kept it among the top fund management groups since it was set up in the UK seven years ago and its smooth administration is the envy of its competitors.

That is not to say Fidelity will have the PEPs field entirely to itself, but it will be the benchmark by which others are judged.

Peter Gartland

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Extracts from the Chairman's Statement

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ALPHA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	ALPHA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	ALPHA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	ALPHA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%
BETA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	BETA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	BETA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	BETA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%
GAMMA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	GAMMA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	GAMMA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	GAMMA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%
DELTA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	DELTA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	DELTA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	DELTA LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%
EPSILON LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	EPSILON LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	EPSILON LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%	EPSILON LIFE	10.00	11.00	+10.0%
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The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading



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Last year proved to be a time when the greatest increases in share values occurred in some of the best known stocks. As European markets were "discovered" by fund managers the world over, it was frequently the household names which attracted the most interest.

However, we believe that for the remainder of 1986, it could be medium sized under-researched companies able to demonstrate the strongest performance, as professional investors begin to appreciate the modest valuation of these stocks in comparison to their growth potential.

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The minimum initial investment in Target European Special Situations Fund is £500. Subsequent investments may be made of £100 or more. Units are dealt daily and the price and profit is published daily in the Financial Times and Times newspapers.

Applications will be acknowledged. A contract note will be despatched on receipt of your application and a certificate for the units you hold will be issued around 42 days after they are purchased. Units can be sold back to the Manager at a price not less than the bid price calculated in accordance with department of trade regulations and a cheque will be despatched within 10 days of receipt of signed certificate.

An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price of units (the Trust Deed allows for 5.25%). Reimbursement is paid to qualified intermediaries from this charge. Sales available upon request. An annual charge of 1% (plus VAT) as a value of the Fund is deducted from the Fund's gross income. (The Trust Deed allows for 1.5%). The Fund accumulates income to pay tax and outflows at that date receive their income less source and manager's report on 1st July. Please note that income is recommended in the offer price of units, not distributed. Trustees: Midland Bank Trust Company Limited, Auditors: 2040 Thomson & MacKenzie, Managers: Target Trust Managers Limited, Registered in England No. 847546 at Target House, Gatchow Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 9ER.

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If you retain the services of a professional adviser, we suggest that you contact him immediately regarding this offer.

\*Source: OFAS statistics. All figures quoted are offer to bid, net income reinvested, to 10th November 1986.

## FAMILY MONEY/3

# A broader view of Amex

In its annual report, American Express announces its ambition: 'To be the world leader in financial and travel services.' How will that be achieved here? John Roberts explains in his second article on the changing role of financial institutions

From his office on the 22nd floor of a central London office block, the chief general manager, John Stuart, has a commanding view, overlooking, for instance, the private gardens of Buckingham Palace. But his vision of how American Express will participate in the changes now sweeping Britain's financial services seems limited. Opportunity is not lacking. Nor could you accuse American Express of being inflexible and too set in its ways. Indeed, criticism of the company on the other side of the Atlantic has been largely that the group has too frequently changed its mind.

Of the decision to sell an interest in cable systems, the

whose balance-sheet ratios were every bit as strong.

He told me: "When we package up an offer we talk to the supplier so that we are offering something we know is suitable to the needs of our card members as a group. But products can become commodities."

"Competitors can design the same product and then choose to undercut on price. We are doing it on a very selective scale to a particular small section of the population, so we are not in the economics of mass marketing. We are not on the marginal pricing end of the business."

"It may be in our interest to move into the provision of insurance."

There, American Express is being forced into a decision. While admitting the scope for it, Mr Stuart has no immediate plans to deal in shares through those travel agency outlets in prime shopping centres and only "might" promote mutual funds to some card-holders. "We have introduced some gold card holders to Shearson Lehman," he said.

The Financial Services Act will require the group either to sell the policies of a single insurance company, declaring

**Card-holders could double in a few years**

itself tied to that, or to be a broker, in which case it might use proper efforts to give best advice regardless of whether it has signed up a deal with the particular company.

Moreover, its advice would need to be directed to every individual's circumstances, rather than those of card-holders as a class.

It is likely either to buy an insurance company or to set up its own, perhaps as a subsidiary of the insurance business in the United States.

Mr Stuart is much more positive about how American Express will be pursuing more UK customers not only in terms of increasing the number of us holding the green and gold cards but in various forms of lending. And here Amex is highly competitive.

Already a million-strong, the green card-holding population could double in



Growing concern: the London office block where American Express is based. Thinking positive: John Stuart, right



the next few years as American Express for the past two years has moved down-market to swell the numbers both of holders and of outlets accepting the green card.

Originally, in 1963, the company was represented as the prerogative of the senior executive engaged in international business, but it is now being more heavily promoted for personal spending by younger people on their way up in the world — the "yuppies".

At the same time, instead of being confined, for instance, to the more expensive *haute cuisine* restaurants, it is now accepted, for instance, at Little Chef, which are more noted as catering for families and commercial travellers than gourmets.

Mr Stuart said: "The lending side is our main development area. We have the most credit-worthy customers in the country."

A natural evolution from the use of a charge (not credit) card for travel was to offer instalment loans for holidays. From there it is blossoming out carefully into mortgages.

And whereas it is not a credit card — the account sent every month must be settled in full — the gold card now includes the automatic right to

an overdraft of at least £10,000 at Lloyds and some other banks. More can be arranged according to individual circumstances and the interest rate is set at 2.5 per cent above the bank's base rate, the attractiveness of which will depend on the state of your relations and negotiating ability with your existing bank manager.

Furthermore, for all card-holders the autonomous fellow subsidiary, American Express Bank, now offers an unsecured overdraft of between £1,000 and £5,000 on completion of a simple form and without the need for an interview. The charge is equivalent to a 19.5 annual percentage rate, which is about 7 per cent below what you would pay to get similar amounts of money from Access or Barclaycard.

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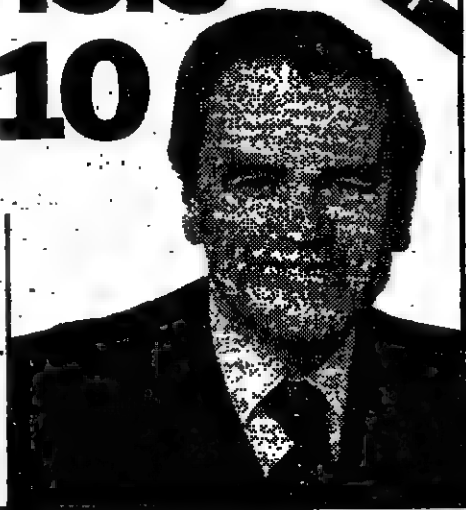
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## INSIDER TRADING: THE INSIDE STORY

Ivan Boesky, fined \$100 million for crooked stock trading: now the shock-waves are reaching the City.

### Spy crisis at No.10

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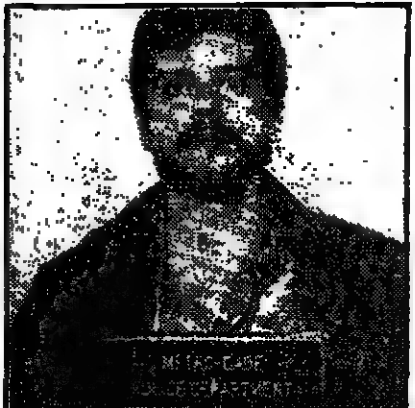
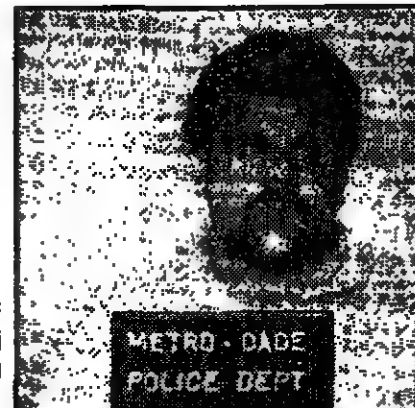
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## THE SUNDAY TIMES

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You must remember, of course, that 'penny' shares are not a place for your emergency savings, but that said, there is no doubt that the well-advised private investor can get far more mileage for his money in the 'penny' share sector of the market. For our part we have put a lot of time and effort into our selection of the 25 'Penny' Shares most likely to double in 1987 and who knows, the next Polly Peck could well be there. If you would like to see what could well be a study of major importance for the rest of this bull market, please send off for free details TODAY.

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## How the gold bugs were bitten

It has not been a good week for gold bugs, those fans of the mystic metal who have been telling us that a new bull market is here to stay, reports RICHARD LANDER

After some years of silence, the bugs finally began to be heard again in mid-year as the gold price started to move up swiftly from the \$350 an ounce level. Various reasons were cited as gold broke through the \$400 barrier to touch \$440 in early October. They included a huge increase in demand from Japan for the Emperor Hirohito commemorative coin; worries over a resurgence in inflation; apparent cracks in the long-running bull phase on the world's equity markets; and renewed fears over the ability of the Third World's debtors to repay their loans.

No one ever accused a gold bug of running out of arguments. On top of this came South Africa's well publicized political turmoil, by far the West's largest source of gold. The reasoning went that the South Africans might retaliate to sanctions by cutting off supplies of platinum, which

contributes far less than gold to the Pretoria coffers but over which the country has a far greater supply stranglehold. Platinum prices, therefore, soared above \$600, dragging gold in their wake, and ironically for proponents of sanctions, giving a much-needed boost to South Africa's economy.

But since October, precious metals prices have started to slip back, and this week saw gold slide below \$400 and platinum below \$500. Once again, the two metals had shown their ability to make monkeys out of incontinent investors, particularly those who leave it late to jump on bandwagons.

There are still plenty of people around ruing the day they bought kruggerands when gold hit a record \$850 in 1980. Keith Smith, managing director of Moccatta & Goldsmith, one of the large London bullion trading houses, says the market has simply run out of steam because the flow of good news — such as the purchases by Japan — has dried up.

"Gold was back in fashion for a while, but now people are slightly bored," he said. "The South African problems are getting no real publicity and it now seems apparent there will

be no disruption to platinum supplies. "It doesn't seem that anything tragic is going to happen."

Mr Smith is forecasting a fairly dull period for gold with little price movement either way. "It should claw back over \$400 but I can't see it getting to \$450," he said. "The week before last we saw good selling at \$410 and I would have thought it unlikely that selling programme had been completed." But, as he admits, the gold market can be full of surprises, and the metal reacts as much to investors' emotions as to the more fundamental factors of supply and demand. On both scores, believes David Williamson, of

'Demand good, the omens look good'

metal traders Shearson Lehman Brothers, gold still has a long way to go. He is sticking by his mid-year prediction that the current market phase will take gold up to \$500.

"Demand has been good, especially for the new American 'Eagle' coins, and although there is talk of increased Soviet supplies, I

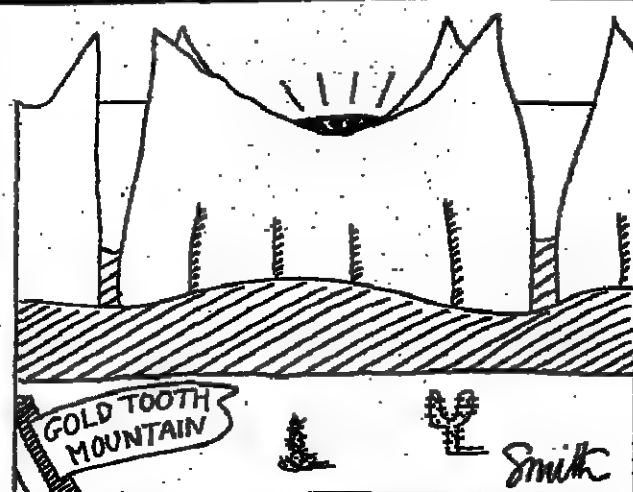
don't think they'll want to break the market," he said. As for the more intangible factors in the gold equation, Mr Williamson said the omens also look good, pointing to the Ivan Boesky insider trading scandal which gave the New York and London stock markets the jitters this week.

He said: "There seems to be enough disappointing news coming in the financial markets to make people look at the alternative haven which is gold."

A common explanation for the recent downward trend in gold among investment advisers is that gold had risen too far, too fast, and was due for a correction.

The size of the drop has surprised some fund managers. "We thought it would hold above \$400 and we're not quite sure why it collapsed," said Peter Bucher, of Waverley Asset Management.

But he is encouraged by the way gold has stayed above the \$385 "danger zone", which price chart followers consider crucial. "We're still optimistic and in the longer term we believe the trend is upwards," he said. Waverley is unusual in that it invests solely in shares of Australian gold mining companies. This meant that the



fund, started in February 1984, spent a long time on the wrong side of the tracks as the Australian dollar tumbled and the gold price did nothing.

In July, the fund received one of those double miracles that investment managers are said to pray for. The gold price started rising and the Australian dollar began to recover against the pound. The result: Waverley's offer price almost doubled from 15.3p to 29.2p by the end of October.

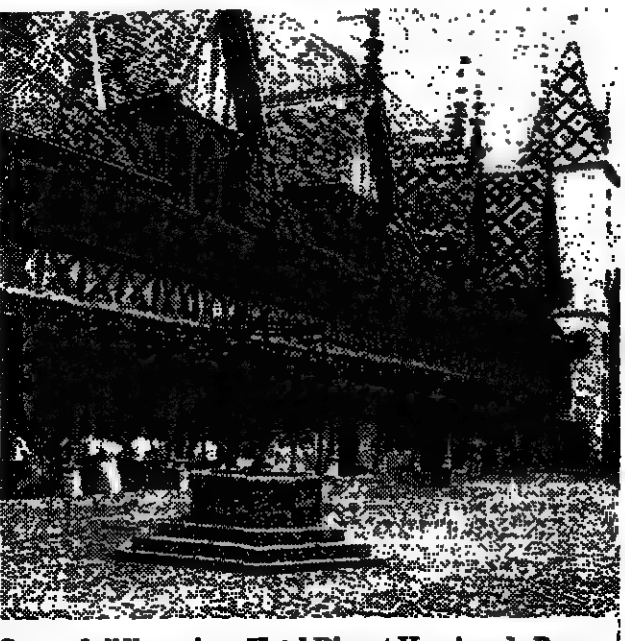
The consolidation in the gold price has had an effect since then and the offer price is now 28.4p. A sharp drop in share prices last Monday was too sudden to avoid, especially as the markets in Australian gold firms, some of which are little more than a man and a plot of land, can be very difficult to get out of

quickly when things turn sour. Another manager who has put a good deal of his fund's money in Australia is Rupert Carnegie, of Henderson Administration. He points out the shares are better value than North American producers and are devoid of the political risk of the South African mines.

Another plus point is that a much-mooted Australian gold tax now seems likely to be dropped or introduced in a diluted form.

Mr Carnegie also remains optimistic, saying: "I expect gold will get back to \$400 within a few weeks and the shares should perform well when the price has clearly bottomed out. There is quite a lot of money waiting on the sidelines to go into both the metal and the shares."

## Top crop, but bottom prices



Scene of sliding prices: Hotel Dieu at Hospices de Beaune

France's most important wine auction of the year, the Hospices de Beaune in the heart of Burgundy, showed a dramatic drop in prices last Sunday. CONAL GREGORY explains

The auction was for both red and white Burgundies from the Côte de Beaune of the 1986 vintage, which had only just completed their second fermentation in cask.

The large crop of good quality wine in Burgundy — arguably the second most important investment wine after claret — ensured both a larger volume coming under the hammer but prices not

dissimilar from those of 1983 and 1984. In both those years 688 and 636 pieces respectively (the traditional Burgundian volume) were sold at auction and only 555 last year. Last Sunday 714 pieces were auctioned, the largest volume since 1973.

Prices for the red Burgundies fell 44.65 per cent on average and by 27 per cent for the whites, an average of 41.41 per cent. Although there was keen international bidding for the Hospices wines, which are sold for charity, the prices have a persuasive effect on both the wine trade and auction prices generally for this key sector.

Claude Bouchard, head of Bouchard Père & Fils, owners of the largest area under vine in Burgundy — 92 hectares or more than 226 acres, told me before the auction that he expected a price reduction. His whites are

hail storms on June 16. To compensate the latter, the "extra" yield permitted has been raised to 50 per cent and 80 per cent respectively. The final yield for Bouchard's red Burgundies was almost 49 hectolitres (each of 11 dozen bottles) per hectare apart from red Beaune which was 36.92 hl per hectare.

The pre-sale tastings — a marathon which attracts investors and trade buyers from around the world and included James Long, buyer for 'Grand Metropolitan' International Distillers and Vintners — indicated wines for relatively early maturity, probably within eight years. Bidding was similarly international, with a distinct presence from Japan. There were fewer North American buyers, largely on account of the value of the US dollar, now only 6.567 French francs (and 9.332 FF to sterling).

Japanese buyers included Suntory and Takasymaya. Although many French houses purchase on behalf of UK agencies and clients, there was successful bidding from Switzerland (one of the major buyers of investment Burgundy), The Netherlands, Denmark, West Germany, Eire, Belgium, the United States and Italy.

Theoretically the final price per lot at the Hospices is when the candle expires but it is rarely if bidding is still going briskly. This tradition was mastered by buyers on behalf of UK merchants such as James McCabe Ltd, of Belfast (purchasing Pommard, Cuvée Chandon, Pateau de Aldermans Drive, Peterborough (purchasing Savigny-les-Beaune, Forcett), Hillfire Wine, of Gibraltar Row, Liverpool (Auxey-Duresses, Boillot), and Yorkshire Fine Wine, of Nun Monkton, York (Corton Charlotte Dumay).

The Scottish & Newcastle subsidiary, Christophers of London, was successful with two lots — a classic white in Meursault-Charmes de Bezeze de Lully and a fine red, Corton Charlotte Dumay. Hotels such as The French House in Berkshire and London's Inn on the Park also secured lots.

Other British buyers were J.W. Lees, of Greengate Brewery, Manchester (with one of the finest reds in the sale, Beaune Nicolas Rottin, named after the founder of the auction), F. and E. May, of London, and Buckingham Vintners.

There is keen demand in the auction rooms here when Hospices wines are resold. Michael Broadbent, Master of Wine at Christie's, reports sales in the last year of such wines as Nuits St Georges, Cuvée St Georges 1969 at

**For elegance it takes some beating**

well balanced and show real Chardonnay fruit that promises well for six or eight years of development. The Bouchard red Burgundies had good colour and a delicacy in the Pinot Noir fruit, such as the Pommard Premier Cru and Beaune Marconnets. For elegance, his 1986 Beaune Grèves "Vigne de l'Enfant Jesus" will take some beating. For firm style, a potential auction room favourite, consider his single vineyard Nuits St Georges, Clos St Marc.

Owing to the extra crop, the French authorities have permitted an additional 20 per cent to be declared under the Appellation Contrôlée status. The two exceptions are Volnay AC and Volnay Santenots AC where the yield was reduced through heavy

**Coming under the hammer**

£140 per dozen bottles and Neursault, Genevrières, Cuvée C. Baudot 1973 at £26 per magnum. Merchants quoting limited stocks of Hospices wines that have been shipped include Berry Bros and Rudd (3 St James's Street, London SW1A 1EG) with 1982 Beaune, Cuvée Brunet at £11.70 per bottle and 1973 Beaune, Cuvée Nicolas Rottin at £28.50 a magnum, both including VAT.

Burgundies come under the hammer here next Wednesday at the Café Royal run by International Wine Auctions (with no buyers' premium), December 3 at Sotheby's in London, next Friday at Lacy Scott's in Bury St Edmunds and on December 4 and 18 at Christie's in London.

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# Where there's a will there may be a snag

## LEGACIES

There is nothing like a bad home-made will for keeping lawyers in clover. People can leave money to whom they wish, provided they are sane and not under pressure when they do it. The problems come only with the ambiguities.

Ernest Digweed, a religious recluse from Portsmouth, had no doubts about where his money should go when he died. He left it all to Jesus Christ. When Mr Digweed died 10 years ago his nearest family challenged the will on the grounds that the will's provisions showed he was insane. In fact, he had been involved in a long and lucid correspondence about just where the money should be invested until Judgment Day — and the courts rejected the relations' application.

The family then had a collective brainwave. Under the Statute of Limitations, if money is left to a particular individual who does not appear for 80 years — like an unborn grandson, for instance — it ultimately reverts to the state.

His family tried to insure themselves against the risk of the Second Coming occurring within 80 years of Mr Digweed's death, but alas, even Lloyd's underwriters would not take the business.

Few wills contain such exotic provisions, although one man recently left his all to the Russian government. Earlier generations of "Disgusted, Timbridge Wells" may have provided their mite to reduce the National Debt, but that has died out. Leaving £50,000 to scale down the public sector borrowing requirement does not sound anything like as good.

The law generally protects your right to eccentricity. But people who have been financially dependent on you can apply to the courts for "reasonable provision" from what you have left, if they do so within six months of your demise.

Wives and families are the obvious claimants but a mis-

trepreneur or perhaps even a kept man might qualify as well, provided he or she relied on you for financial survival. But what "reasonable provision" means in practice depends very much on the details of every case.

It is lack of clarity, not lack of provision, which brings most wills to court. Stationers usually stock will forms, which are fine so long as your intentions are clear, but can cause problems otherwise. The biggest difficulties have come from wills which are completely home-made.

The phrase "all to Mother", for instance, led to one classic court case. The man who had left these final instructions had known his wife as Mother — just as his children did. But it took a court to settle that the money should go to her.

More recently, someone left

The legal formalities are quite simple

a large sum to cancer research, but he combined the two main charities in the field in the name of a group he laid down should receive the money. Once again it caused expensive confusion.

The legal formalities to making a will are relatively simple. Once you have completed it, you have to sign the will in front of two witnesses who then sign it in turn in each other's presence. The simplest mistake people make is to allow someone who is to benefit from the will to act as a witness.

If that happens, he automatically loses his right to benefit from it, although it does not make the rest of the will invalid as it did in the past. What is more, you will need an executor who winds up the estate, paying off any debts, collecting the assets and finally getting probate (or the legal right to pay out) once any tax has been paid, before he finally distributes what you have left. Solicitors will do it and so will banks, although with differing degrees of efficiency.

It can be a long and time-

consuming bore. If you choose a friend it is vital to ask him before giving him the job if he is not a beneficiary already. It is perhaps worth allowing for his trouble in what you leave. Finally, you should always date the will.

If muddle is one threat to your intentions, inflation is the other. People often make wills with what looks like generous provisions for their families and then leave a small residue elsewhere.

Inflation gnaws away at the value of most legacies and, 30 years hence, the last in the queue may collect the lion's share of what you leave. The answer is to provide legacies in terms of a proportion of the estate, and not as fixed lump sums.

The one move which invalidates any will is getting married, unless the will was clearly in "contemplation of marriage". Without that vital clause, your previous single person's will is invalid and what you leave is distributed as though you had never made a will at all.

Divorce will ensure that your ex-wife or husband — loses any benefits and is treated as though he or she had died before you.

You can always change a will once you have made it, although once again you will need two independent witnesses to sign the amendment. Codicils — the legal version of



a PS on a letter — allow you to make gifts to extra people or organisations, without disturbing the main lines of what you have decided.

But major changes of mind need a new will, which should state that it is revoking the old one — and, above all, be dated. Incidentally, the estate of anyone who dies intestate and without any dependants goes to the Crown.

Finally, the people who are going to benefit should know where the will has been kept, when they need to see it. The crucial point before making a will is to buy a copy of the new *Which?* publication (Wills and Probate, £6.95, from bookshops or from the Consumers' Association at PO Box 44, Hertford SG14 1SH).

It provides a good, relatively simple guide to the whole business. How much will solicitors charge for drafting a will? It depends on how long it takes

Tax postponed, not tax avoided

and how complex it is, but many outside London treat wills as a loss leader and will keep charges down to perhaps £35 or £40. But it may cost £100 or more in London.

But the will is often only part of the story. Tax may rear its ugly head once your estate is worth £71,000 or more. Inheritance tax does not apply to what you leave to your wife, or to a charity, but leaving

money to your wife may well mean that it is not so much a tax avoided as a tax postponed. It will be payable on her estate when she dies in turn.

You can give away £3,000 to any one person every year without coming into the tax net at all and make as many small gifts of up to £250 as you like. After that, generosity and survival are two tax-beaters, although splitting your estate with your wife can also cut your family's eventual tax bills dramatically.

But if you are thinking of such measures, you will need to get professional advice anyway.

Tom Tickell

## 'A great step forward' for rights of shoppers

Consumers will no longer have to prove a manufacturer's negligence when claiming for damages for faulty products, if the Government has its way.

Under the Consumer Protection Bill, published this week by the Department of Trade and Industry, producers will be automatically liable for damages caused by their stuff.

But, says the department, it has to be clear that the defect in the goods caused the damage and this will place "a heavy but necessary burden of proof" on the consumer.

Nevertheless, the Bill has been welcomed by the Consumers' Association "as a great step forward".

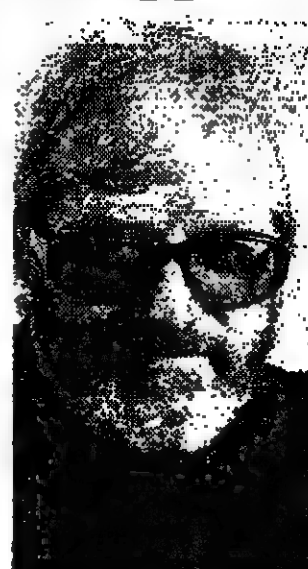
The association comments: "Suppliers will be responsible for ensuring that the goods they sell are safe." Under the Bill, producers, importers, and "own branders" are liable for damages.

Yet the association is worried by an exclusion from the Bill which its legal adviser, David Tench, describes as "absurd". Manufacturers will be able to escape liability for "development risks".

If it can be proved that at the time of manufacture the state of knowledge to pinpoint a defect did not exist, then the producer would not be liable.

The department says this provision was inserted to protect product innovators who did everything reasonable to ensure a new product was safe.

But Mr Tench counters: "Two of the most innovative countries in the world, the



David Tench: 'absurd' United States and France, have strict liability laws."

The Bill's scope covers death or personal injury or damage exceeding £275, with no maximum limit on damages set. But it also excludes from its jurisdiction utilities, other than gas, water and electricity, primary agricultural goods and professional liabilities.

Yet the Bill will also make it an offence to sell goods which do not comply to a general safety requirement.

This replaces the current system of regulations for particular types of goods, thought to be inflexible as new products are continually appearing.

Rod Morrison

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# Lessons from a company that raised £1m

## BES

The Business Expansion Scheme is not a passport to riches for investors, even if they do get tax relief of up to 60 per cent on their investments. LAWRENCE LEVER explains

The latest salutary warning that tax breaks do not guarantee profit comes in the managers' report on the Buckmaster Development Fund.

This fund was launched in 1984 and raised £1 million, which was invested in seven companies. It is managed by Credit Suisse Buckmaster & Moore, the stockbrokers.

Halfway through its five-year life there are now only four companies left — the other three being in the course of liquidation.

These companies accounted for £483,600 of the original £1 million. In other words 48 per cent of the investments have been written off.

One of the surviving companies — in which £76,800 was invested — is in difficulties. According to the managers' report its survival "depends upon a major infusion of funds but as of this date we are

**'Working very hard for the investors'**

unable to predict whether support will be forthcoming.

Eric Edgill, one of the managers of the fund, says he is "working very, very hard to make something for the investors". Mr Edgill, who was not involved until 18 months ago, is "optimistic that people will get their money back ultimately, taking into account tax relief".

Fortunately there is no

overlap in the investments between this Buckmaster fund and a second one launched in 1985.

There will not be any more Buckmaster BES funds in the foreseeable future. In common with some, but by no means all, BES fund sponsors, it has not found it economic to market BES funds.

The Buckmaster report does not contain a statement of how much in expenses and fees the managers have received.

According to Mr Edgill, these are very modest. The fund took a 5 per cent front-end load fee and charges nothing else to the fund. The investors companies pay the directors' fees if they have a Buckmaster director on the board.

The reasons for the failures are, Mr Edgill says, many and various. It seems in the case of one of the companies

that it did not get the sales that its business plan originally suggested.

Other BES funds have suffered liquidations and BES investors are warned of the dangers of investing in unquoted companies. However, to lose close on half of investors' money in two and a half years is a sorry record.

**Company aims to develop a chain**

Meanwhile, for prospective BES investors not deterred by the risks, County Inns, a pub venture sponsored by Baltic Asset Management, is looking for up to £2.5 million. The minimum amount it needs to get off the ground is £500,000.

It has already exchanged contracts for two premises and wants to develop a chain. It has close links with the Wiltshire Brewery Company,

which operates its own brewery and recently raised £2.7 million itself from a number of City institutions.

Two directors of County Inns are directors of WBC, which will receive an annual management fee of £75,000 as well as supplying drinks to County. Philip Keane, from Baltic, says of the close links with WBC: "We actually think they are an advantage to County Inns. The company will have an independent managing director and other independent representatives on the board." He stresses that the pubs will not be obliged to take only WBC beer.

The management of County Inns, including WBC, is putting its money where its mouth is with a £243,000 investment in the company. There are options over 27.5 per cent of the company for the management and sponsors, exercisable at a minimum 75 per cent premium.

This means that investors will retain the benefit of the first 75 per cent of uplift in the value of their shares before suffering any dilution.

The prospectus gives no figures for the trading record of the two premises for which County Inns has exchanged contracts. Mr Keane says last annual turnover in one

**You must invest at least £500**

case was more than £350,000 and in the other more than £300,000.

He will not say what profits they both made, but says he is confident County Inns will maximize its potential.

The minimum investment you can make is £500. Details are available from Baltic Asset Management, 25-26 Albermarle Street, London W1X 4AD (01-493 9899).

## Commissions could fall to end the debate

One of the still outstanding and most controversial aspects of the new financial services rules — the question of commissions you pay to intermediaries on life insurance and unit trusts — came a step closer to being resolved this week.

The Life and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (LAUTRO) has outlined the rates of commission which it considers intermediaries should charge.

They do not appear to herald a huge reduction in commissions. But surrender values — the amount a policy is worth when cashed in early — should increase as a result.

LAUTRO is proposing to limit commissions to 25 per cent of the premiums paid. On regular premium policies the 25 per cent would be charged for an initial period followed by a flat rate charge of 2.5 per cent on all premiums paid until the policy matures.

LAUTRO is suggesting that intermediaries can earn a maximum of 3 per cent commission on sales of unit trusts — in line with current market practice.

This will also apply where an intermediary switches his client from one unit trust into another.

For single-premium bonds LAUTRO suggests a 4 per cent initial charge followed by a charge of 0.5 per cent in the following four years, as opposed to the current one-off commission payment of 5 per cent.

Under rules put forward by the Securities and Investments Board, intermediaries who sell life insurance and unit trusts of companies which subscribe to the LAUTRO agreement will not have to disclose to investors the amount of commission they are earning.

Instead they will be subject only to "soft disclosure" requirements, telling investors that their commissions are in line with the LAUTRO agreement.

Intermediaries will have to disclose only the amount of commission they are earning

### High value for surrender

where they sell a policy from a company which is not party to the LAUTRO agreement.

The practice of spreading premiums over the life of policies means that, broadly speaking, commissions on endowment and whole life assurance will be slightly lower for short-term policies and higher than currently paid on longer term policies.

Spreading commissions over the life of the policy should also lead to higher surrender values. Commissions on the short-term self-employed policies will be considerably reduced.

And, in the case of term assurance, commissions will be marginally less on longer term and more for short-term policies.

LL

## Insider dealing should not panic the outsiders

### SHARES

"Insider dealing" is the buzz phrase in the City. There are now two cases of suspected insider dealing under investigation by the Department of Trade and Industry.

There is also the case of Ivan Boesky, the flamboyant Wall Street financier, who is paying a \$100 million penalty for the offences in the United States and who had substantial investments in Britain.

It is hardly the kind of news to inspire confidence in the stock market at a time when the number of private shareholders is rising so rapidly under the influence of the Government's privatization programme.

For several reasons, however, there is little cause for private investors to worry unduly.

Insider dealing — profiting from dealing in shares on the strength of privileged information — is usually open only to those involved in the financial world.

### There is a lot of it about

The indications are that there is a lot of it about. But most of the time it probably affects only specific stocks for very short periods of time.

The typical stamping ground for the insider dealer is the take-over bid.

It is amazing how often the share price of a target company rises on the stock market just before the bid is announced.

But insider dealing probably has no long-term influence on share prices, which will continue to be determined by fundamental investment

values such as the company's earnings performance.

Insider dealers dodge in and out of shares. The ordinary stock market investor should, most of the time, be looking for relatively long-term investments.

He or she may want to take advantage of temporary blips in the share price — however inexplicable they are — to buy or sell, but they are unlikely to make a difference to the long-term performance of his shares.

Naturally, no innocent person likes to be taken advantage of by those unscrupulous enough to misuse their privileged position.

But in the nature of the stock market, most insider dealers will be trading with

other professional investors rather than private investors, who own a relatively small proportion of the market.

The worst that may happen is that you sell your shares for a smaller profit than you might have done if you had known what the insider dealer who bought them knew.

You can at least calculate exactly what you are making on the deal before you do it.

It is not as bad as being sold a faulty washing machine by a dishonest salesman. And it is certainly not as bad as being sold old or fictitious shares by those dishonest share salesmen who cold-call unwary investors from Amsterdam or Madrid.

Richard Thomson  
Banking Correspondent



The Stock Exchange: no worries from these insider deals

### BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	11.00%
Adam & Company	11.00%
BCCI	11.00%
Citibank Savings	12.45%
Consolidated Crds	11.00%
Co-operative Bank	11.00%
C. Hoare & Co	11.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	11.00%
Lloyds Bank	11.00%
Nat Westminster	11.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	11.00%
TSB	11.00%
Citibank NA	11.00%

† Mortgage Base Rate.



Ivan Boesky: fined heavily

## CUT A HOLE IN THIS PAPER. YOU MIGHT MAKE A MINT.

In one year Prudential's North American Trust has risen 39.5%, the best performance in the sector. Our Japanese Trust, an impressive 105.0%. And our European Trust, a remarkable 107.2%.

Of course, you must remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

But if you cut out the coupon, we'll

send you details of these trusts and the others in our range, the results of which we're sure you'll find refreshing.

For Prudential Unit Trust Managers Ltd.  
FREEPOST, 100000, 100000, 100000  
(GI) JDL (No stamp required)  
Please send me more information about the following Unit Trusts.  
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Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
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The objective of the new Clerical Medical International Income Trust is to provide a high and rising income, plus capital growth, by investing in the world's leading economies.

The launch of this trust is timely for the serious investor: it provides access to the income and growth prospects of markets such as Japan, Europe, the Far East and the USA and the flexibility to reduce emphasis on the UK should political uncertainties suggest it.

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The portfolio will consist of equities, bonds and fixed interest securities and may invest in approved second tier markets as well as principal ones. A wide geographical spread is envisaged but the Managers may, if market conditions dictate, place emphasis on a single economy.

### STRENGTH IN MANAGEMENT

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Units are on offer at a Fixed Price of 25p until November 28th with an estimated gross initial yield of 5.00%. During this period, a 1% Bonus Allocation of units will be given to those investing £1,000 or more.

To invest, return the coupon with your cheque, made payable to Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers, or simply telephone your order of units on our free Linkline number below.

Remember that the price of units, and the income from them, may go down as well as up. You should regard your investment as long term.

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CALL FREE 0800 373393 Monday-Saturday 9am-4pm



















Time of Day	Sleeping	Resting	Sitting	Standing	Walking	Running
0	85	10	3	0	0	0
4	85	10	3	0	0	0
8	75	15	5	0	0	0
12	65	15	10	0	0	0
16	55	15	15	0	0	0
20	45	15	20	0	0	0
24	85	10	3	0	0	0

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*[Faint, illegible handwritten notes]*

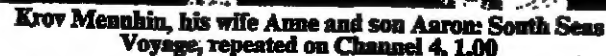
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**Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle**

## Peter Davalle



● Dirk Bogarde acted both wisely and unwisely in associating himself with Maya. *We Borrow Your Husband* (ITV, 7.45pm). He is in his element in the observational role of the mature man who sees an immature girl losing her husband to a couple of predatory homosexuals in out-of-season Antibes. The mistake Bogarde made was to write the screenplay. Graham Greene's original short story did not present the man-girl relationship as autumn yearning for spring. That is what Bogarde does with it, and it takes a lot of soulwining to

● A killer's gun having made it impossible for Lee Harvey Oswald to stand trial on the charge of murdering President Kennedy, LWT have done the next best thing: stage the trial, with real lawyers, real judge, real witnesses (Channel 4, 7.15pm). At nearly 5½ hours, this must be rated Channel 4's most remarkable

**Peter Davalle**

**CHANNEL 4**

**9.25 Sunday East: Magazine** programme for Britain's Asian communities. Followed by **Dewaratin**. Drama serial set in a village in Pakistan.

**10.00 The World This Week** introduced by Chantal Cui. 11.00 **Worzel Gadget**. (r) 11.30 **The Watsons**. 12.30 **The Tube**. (r)

**2.00 Polo's Programme** for children. The guest is John Dineen.

**2.30 Films: Jai Santoshi Ma** (1975) A mythological film which was responsible for the creation of a nationwide cult devoted to an obscure regional folk deity, Santoshi Ma. Starring Kanan Kaushal and Annu Gupta. Directed by Vijay Sharma. (In Hindi with English subtitles)

**4.45 World Alive: Spain.** A series on the natural history of Spain. This programme focusses on the mountains of Andalusia where some of the animals would be at home in Scotland and the forests of Germany, others are definitely Mediterranean. (r)

**5.15 News summary** and weather followed by **The Business Programme** presented by Susan Shaw, Simon and Iain Carson. There is an interview with the Chairman of Fiat, Giovanni Agnelli, who talks about his takeover of Alfa Romeo and his relations with Ford in Europe; and about the level of over capacity in the European car market. Plus, a report on the first stage of France's privatization process.

**6.00 American Football** presented by Frank Gifford and John Smith. Highlights of the game between the New England Patriots and the Los Angeles Rams.

**7.15 The Trial of Lee Harvey Oswald.** To coincide with the 23rd anniversary of the assassination of President Kennedy, a trial that never was. Before a presiding Texas judge, Lucius D Burton, and a 12-man jury selected by the Dallas Federal Court computer, actual witnesses face cross examination by two of the United States' most formidable criminal lawyers - prosecutor Vincent T Bugliosi, who secured the conviction of assassin Charles Manson, and defender Gerry Spence who has not lost a jury trial for 17

**7.00** Hungarian Rhapsody No 13  
Wolff Winds:  
performances of Ferenc  
Franz's Ancient Hungarian  
Dances, Villa-Lobos's  
Quintet in the forms of a  
Chorus, and Stravinsky's  
Petrushka

**7.30** Cardiff Festival of Music  
1985: part one, Lellozjo  
Gewandhaus Orchestra under  
Kurt Maslowski, with  
Christian Funke (viola) and  
Jurmajakko Timmi (cello).  
Brahms (Concerto in A  
minor, Op 102, for violin,  
cello and orchestra)

**8.05** The Living Poet: readings  
from his own work by  
Allen Curnutt

**8.25** Concert (part two):  
Robert Schumann (Symphony No 9)

**9.30** John Casken and  
Richard Rodney Bennett:  
Jane Manning (soprano),  
with Richard Rodney  
Bennett (piano), John  
Casken (la Orana,  
Gauguin, Bennett (A Garland  
of Poems)

**10.00** The Rith Leith: Lorne  
McCusker on Harp  
and Baid (with Gordon  
Lund)

**10.30** Britten performs Mozart:  
The ECO under Britten

**1.05** The Piano Concerto  
No 10 with Clifford Curzon,

**1.35** Minder: John McAndrew  
reads the story by Elaine  
Swydale

**1.25** Russian Orthodox Church

**1.57** News. 12.00 Close.

**3.30** Hill  
A look inside, Leslie  
Fulwaker compares an

prison system,  
**00.00** *A Master of  
 Honour*, by Jeremy  
 Archer (3), (With Michael York  
 and Simon Ward) s.3  
**1.30** *Law in Action*, presented  
 by Joshua Rozenberg,  
 9.55 Weather; Travel  
**00.00** News;  
**1.15** *The Sunday Feature: The  
 Loud Awakener*. The  
 story of George Whitfield,  
 revolutionary clergyman  
 of the 16th century.  
**1.40** *Scenes of Faith: The  
 World is Wild*, Dr Sheila  
 Cassidy reflects on her  
 own experiences with  
 the Church in Chile.  
**1.15** In Committee, Peter Hill  
 on the work of  
 Parliament's select  
 committees.  
**00.00** News; Weather. 72.33  
 Shipping  
 (available in England and  
 S Wales only) as above  
 except 5.55-6.00am Open  
 University. 7.10 Open  
 Forum 7.20 In the Open  
 4.00-6.00 Cypriot: 4.00  
 Music Choices, 4.30 Cars  
 and Accs. 5.00  
 Employment Counselling.  
 5.30 Buonogiorno Italia!

to 3: 1215kHz/247m:VHF-90:  
 HF95.8; BBC Radio London

**Regional TV: on facing page**



They apparently keep your feet warm and dry and "help you concentrate on your game."